

The Standard

WEEKLY PACKET EDITION

No 1,829

BUENOS AIRES, MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1897

PRICE 20 CENTS

YEAR XXXV

Telegrams

(Per Havas Agency.)

Turkey threatens Greece.

Abyssinia welcomes the British mission.

The Cretan insurgents triumph afresh.

Rumoured discovery of gold in Erythraea.

Killed and injured in a church.

Athens, 11th.—News has arrived from Candia, a port on the North-East coast of Crete, that yesterday an engagement was fought between a band of insurgents and a detachment of Turkish forces. The battle was a bloody one, but eventually the Turks were compelled to retreat with considerable loss in killed and wounded and also that of several carts containing provisions and military stores.

Havana, 11th.—On the night before last a convoy of prisoners arrived here from the Province of Pinar del Rio, amongst them being Ruis Rivera, the successor of Antonio Maceo, who had to be removed from the station lying in an ambulance, owing to the severity of his wounds.

Canea, 11th.—News has arrived from Candia, a port on the North-East coast of Crete, that yesterday an engagement was fought between a band of insurgents and a detachment of Turkish forces. The battle was a bloody one, but eventually the Turks were compelled to retreat with considerable loss in killed and wounded and also that of several carts containing provisions and military stores.

Rome, 11th.—A persistent rumour is current here that a rich gold mine was recently discovered in the Erythraean colony near Asmara. It is further said that a syndicate of Italian capitalists is already being organized to work it.

Castres, 11th.—This morning the roof of the Church of Brouse, a neighbouring village, fell in, killing 8 persons and wounding 30 other of the worshippers who were at the time in the sacred edifice hearing Mass.

Madrid, 11th.—A telegram from Manila states that large numbers of the rebels continue to avail themselves of the pardon offered by the recent decree. It is calculated that during the last few days no less than 9,000 insurgents have laid down their arms and promised allegiance to Spanish rule.

Vienna, 11th.—According to despatches received from Constantinople, the bands of Greek insurgents, which on Friday invaded Macedonia, have been routed with great loss.

Gibuti, 11th.—News has arrived from Harar of the arrival there of the British mission and that it was welcomed with high honour by the Ras Makonnen.

Constantinople, 11th.—The Sublime Porte has again informed the Ambassadors of the Powers that the Turkish Government will withdraw its forces from Crete only when the Greek troops have evacuated the island.

Rome, 11th.—The Press of this city expresses regret that there should have been Italian volunteers in the ranks of the insurgents, who the day before yesterday invaded Turkish territory, as their presence, as rebels against the Porte, may involve the country in complications with the Sultan's Government, even though there may be no suspicion of complicity on the part of Italy.

Athens, 11th.—An ultimatum has been received from the Sultan, making the Greek Government responsible for the recent violation of Turkish territory, and warning King George that, should a fresh incursion be made, the Ottoman troops will immediately advance into Greece.

Athens, 11th.—The Chamber of Deputies has been summoned to meet this week to take into consideration the ultimatum just received from the Sultan's Government.

REVIEW.

The Uruguayan revolution still absorbs public attention on both banks of the Plate. The rebel Blancos are carrying everything before them in the South East of Uruguay, and chaos appears to preside over the councils of President Borda's Generals. In Montevideo there are symptoms of popular ferment, increased by the calling out of the National Guards of the city. At the last moment the Government decided to postpone any mobilization of the Guards, but affairs are seething, and we doubt if the Uruguayan President can hold out much longer against the opposition, even in his own party.

The special mission entrusted to General Maximo Tajes is still a mystery. The distinguished Uruguayan soldier and statesman is still in our midst, and it is argued that his negotiations are not going on smoothly. When

the Special Envoy landed he stated that his mission would be carried out in a few days, but he has evidently been disappointed. In some political circles it is whispered that the main object of the Tajes mission is to obtain from the Argentine Government rifles and cannon, and artillerymen!! Such pretensions are simply preposterous and would imply mental aberration on the part of the President of Uruguay, unless he wished to seize some pretext to get a dangerous political opponent out of the country during the present storm. Tajes, as our readers know, is to the Banda Oriental what General Roca is to Argentina.

On this side of the river politics are very quiet. Elections have been held in the province of Buenos Ayres for local Senators and Deputies, and nobody was killed at the polls. General Roca has returned from Cordoba, and his presence here will, no doubt, put an end to the domestic quarrels in the political hatches of San Luis and Santa Fé. The reorganization of the Radical Party in this capital is going on very slowly under the chairmanship of Dr. Bernardo de Irigoyen, who is also supposed to be the presidential candidate of the party. The Mitristas are playing a waiting game, watching the current and the opportunity.

The commercial situation is very unsatisfactory, and business embarrassments are the order of the day, as may be gleaned from the lengthy list in another column. The losses in the rural districts have much affected this market, and a restriction of credit has caused collapse in many quarters. The banks are no longer liberal and paper money is tighter. Importers complain of the dull times and of the difficulty of getting in money from outside. Exporters are not doing half the business of this time last year, as a glance at our export tables will show.

Wool is going forward steadily, but the falling off in cereals is heavy. Sugar is beginning to go forward freely from the Rosario refinery, thanks to the export bounty.

The manoeuvres of the 20-year old National Guard are still going on in the five large encampments in Buenos Aires province, in Entre Rios, and in the Interior. The President of the Republic and the Minister of War paid a flying visit to the Donnelly camp and have returned satisfied that the water is good and the condition of the troops excellent. The tension between the Minister of War and the Army and Navy officers continues, and such is the strain that the Minister will probably abandon his post before the end of the month. Minister Villanueva has lent valuable services in his department, but he is not popular in either army or navy. He is now organizing the fleet for manoeuvring next week; the squadron is under orders to steam to B. Blanca and cruise thence, with the Garibaldi as flag-ship, down South. Captain Garcia, who is Head of the Staff, will take command. The Destroyer Santa Fé has been finally hauled off the Colonia rocks and is docked for repairs. Messrs. Yarow will be asked to send out a supply of fresh plates for her. We doubt if she will ever recuperate her old efficiency in speed, as her machinery must have suffered heavy strain during the bumping on the rocks.

Both gold and exchange are falling; the former has tumbled to the neighbourhood of 180 premium, in view of the tightness of paper-money and shows a tendency to fall lower, in spite of the uncomfortable feeling in commercial circles. Nobody believes that this fall can continue long, as the circumstances of the market point to the contrary direction. Optimists are few and far between; pessimists are legion. As this is an exceptional market, it may happen that logic is on the side of the inexplicable and unexpected. Speculation in gold is at a very low ebb, and as paper is scarce, dealers are handicapped. In exchange, bills are not very abundant, owing to the dullness of the export market. It is significant to see exchange fall to the vicinity of par at a moment when the exports of wool and cereals should be in full blast and should keep the exchange rate up at a high premium. We wonder how the market will fare in winter. We quote the following rates:

London—47 1/2 d.
Paris—5.02 fcs.
Antwerp—5.03 fcs.
Hamburg—4.09 marks.

SPORT.

RACING IN THE PARK.

It seems as if the Jockey Club's star were in the ascendant again this year as regards the weather, for yesterday was a lovely day, a blossom of primavera, everything green and fresh, no dust, no heat—a charming day in every respect. There was a tolerably good card for discussion too, so that it was not surprising the attendance should be on the big side. It was a pity that a bad start spoiled a very good race

in the classic. Devona got away actually last and must have been at least 10 or 12 lengths behind the leading when they were rounding the bend; calculate then that 25 de Mayo who caught the Judge's eye was only a neck in front of Pepina at the post and the latter a bare half length ahead of Devona and it certainly must appeal to logic that the start made all the difference in the verdict. Abrojo made a very good show indeed but Addio, a very strong mare, was never prominent. So far as the finish went, it was exciting enough, but it was a pity that the Phoenix filly should have had such sorry luck for a good stake, and we make little doubt that the owner would like to make a match to run either one or the other or even the two together of the Amianto stable over the same distance for any stakes in reason. However, it is useless wasting thought or time over spilt milk and we may get on to the long distance which after the classic was the "nut" of the day. A ten coloured turned out for it and Malakoff was promptly installed hot favorite; he ran creditably enough too, but he never had anything really to say in the finish which was confined to Espoir and Malvina. Garrido rode Espoir very patiently indeed and looked to have the race in hand at the stand, as the mare was wearing down the leader very steadily, but the 10 kilos difference in weight told its tale at the finish and the mare, tiring in the last 50 metres under the whip, was beaten by a head. In the first event Cristiana was in front from flag to post, and in the second, Lancoy won easily enough, though Fanciulla made him go faster than was expected. Tanger made a very successful re-appearance in the 1,500 metres, though he had such a poor lot behind him it cannot be written up for form. The Mile was better class and we saw it in a very game effort of Oriol to concede the speedy Lautaro 15 kilos, which he only just failed to do, though 100 metres from home it was odds on the weight, and if he had to put up with second honours he was a long way in front of everything else. The final was also a good show with 9 runners of which Violin proved a long way the best winning very easily from the two lightweights.

Premio Amianto.
For all horses that have one year residence in the country, and have not run more than twice, and have not won more than \$6000. Distance 1400 metres. Prize \$1400 to the 1st and 100 to the 2nd.
Yrs. Kls.
A. Lincoln, Cristiana by Saint Honorat out of Annette... 3 54 1
Ecurie Azur, Extra... 3 54 2
Mr. Yps, Mundano... 4 53 3
Also ran—Mimado, Fauvette, Sorpresa, Belle Etoile.
Cristiana was the first to show in front, being a couple of lengths to the good at the crossing. Entering the bend Fauvette closed up to challenge but compounded before she got on terms and the leader then went on to win cleverly by about 1/4 length from Extra who made up a lot of ground in the last 100 metres. Mundano was a fair third.
Sport—Cristiana \$420, Placé 3.05, Extra \$7.05.

Premio Clovis.
For all 2-year-olds. Weight 52 to 50 kilos. Three kilos extra for winner. Distance 1,000 metres. Prize \$1,700 to the 1st and 100 to the 2nd.
Yrs. Kls.
Ecurie Prisonero, Lancoy by Solomon out of Luminaria... 2 55 1
Ecurie Juncal, Fanciulla... 2 50 2
Stud La Redencion, Yangueturu... 2 55 3
Also ran—Alarife, Pillito, Julius Cesar, Gyp, Blue Star, Lavinia, Babiloe.
The flag fell to a rather ragged start of which Alarife got decidedly the worst; Pillito getting off in front with Fanciulla at his heels, and Lancoy about 3 lengths away third. Entering the straight, the latter closed up and Fanciulla shook off Pillito. At the paddock Lancoy made his effort and, though it took him all his time, steadily wore down the filly making a nice win by about 3 lengths. Yangueturu who had come with a rare rattle down the straight was a very close third, and Pillito a moderate fourth.

Premio Progress.
For all colts and fillies born from 1st August 1894. Weight 52 to 54 kilos. Distance 1200 metres. Prize \$5000 to the 1st and 500 to the 2nd, free entrance fee to the third.
Yrs. Kls.
Stud Amianto, 25 de Mayo by Orbit out of Geneve... 2 54 1
Stud Amianto, Pepina... 2 52 2
Stud Devona, Devona... 2 52 3
Also ran—Fernet, Branca, Catanga, Addio, Onagh, Abrojo, Tamberlick, Rose d'Or, India.
The flag fell to another very straggling start at a most inopportune moment for Devona whose rider was pulling up. Before she got into her stride everything had passed her Pepina, who had slipped her field being five or six lengths in front of her stable companion who was running second. In the straight Abrojo and Devona began to decrease the gap but although they menaced the leader they never got really on terms. It was sufficient to alarm the rider of 25 de Mayo, however, and the latter ridden out shot up on the rails to win by about a neck. Devona was half a length off a very good third, and Abrojo a still closer fourth, with little more than a head.

Premio Etoile.
Handicap for all horses. Distance 2,800 metres. Prize 2800 to the 1st and 200 to the 2nd.
Yrs. Kls.
Stud Santa Fé, Malvina by Noé out of Sarsaparilla... 5 46 1
Ecurie Juncal, Espoir... 4 56 2
J. B. Zebian, Malakoff... 6 40 3
Also ran—Cantiniere, Sirena, Ataque, Ravachol, Stamboul, Ortegai, Yerud.

Getting well away together Ortegai started pace making in front of Malvina with Sirena then Cantiniere, Malakoff, Ataque and Espoir all in a cluster and Stamboul tailed off whipping in. Ortegai made play for about half the journey and cried enough being replaced by Malvina who as it turned out was never afterwards headed. However entering the bend Garrido began to work up on Espoir and got on terms with Malvina about 50 metres from the post but, the weight telling on the heavy going, Malvina was able to keep her head in front to the end, this being the result of a punishing finish. Malakoff was a fair third and Ortegai fourth. Sport—Malvina, \$15.08; Placé, \$4.48; Espoir, 3.79; Malakoff, 3.44.

Premio Primera.
Handicap for all horses that have not won \$8,000. Distance 1500 metres. Prize \$1,500 to the 1st and 100 to the 2nd.
Yrs. Kls.
Ecurie Argentino, Tanger, by Gay Hermit out of Sumira... 3 54 1
Ec. Prisonero, Eureka... 4 57 2
Stud Esperanza, Namuncura... 5 53 3
Also ran—Regalona, Idiota, Grillon, Orbe, Cartujo, Galatea.
Namuncura and Idiota broke the line together and showed the way abreast for about 150 metres, when the former shook himself free and made play to the straight. Here Eureka and Tanger joined issue, but in the run home the latter had it all his own way, winning with something in hand, by about 1 1/4 lengths. Namuncura a very poor third.

Premio Independiente.
Handicap for all horses. Distance 1800 metres. Prize \$1,800 to the 1st and 100 to the 2nd.
Yrs. Kls.
Petite Ecurie, Lantaro, by Salomon out of Lise Fleuro... 3 47 1
Stud Paris, Oriol... 5 62 2
Ecurie Azur, Friedland... 6 50 3
Also ran—Blue Boat, Little Darling, Palmar, Daza, Pick Pocket, Don Gonzalo.
Lantaro made the pace pretty hot from the start, shaking off Palmar and Little Darling, who were dogging his heels to the bend. Entering the straight Oriol moved up and challenged at the paddock, getting to the leader's neck at the stand, but the weight then told and Lantaro running on under the whip, got home cleverly by 1/4 length. Friedland was a poor third.

Premio Independiente.
Handicap for all horses. Distance 1800 metres. Prize \$1,800 to the 1st and 100 to the 2nd.
Yrs. Kls.
Stud Amianto, Violin, by The Laddie out of Harp... 4 58 1
Ec. Sans Facon, Tiradentes... 3 40 2
Stud Revelacion, Hugonote... 5 44 3
Also ran—Mundial, Reserva, Autopolejo, Independiente, Laurel and Pichucha.
Hugonote took a long lead of his field and showed the way to the straight, where Violin shot up, and passing Hugonote when he pleased, won in a canter by 1 1/4 lengths.

FLORES V. OLD BEDFORDIANS.
This match, played at Flores yesterday in splendid weather and before a large crowd of visitors, ended in a victory for the Flores team by the narrow margin of 16 runs. A draw was looked forward to as the result of the match, between these two teams and this opinion prevailed due to both sides being well matched although Flores had the best bowlers. Old Bedfordians, on the other hand, put a strong batting team in the field, the backbone of the eleven being the Andersons. The game was well contested all through, and excitement became intense, as the match gradually drew to a close. The tail end of the Old Bedfordians collapsed in lamentable fashion, as the last four wickets only yielded 14 runs. Dillon, Rudd, F. Jones and B. B. Syer played fine cricket for the home team, while H. B. Anderson, J. Anderson, R. E. Anderson and A. Anderson showed up well for the visitors. The batting of the first named was a splendid display of hitting from start to finish, and the result of the match, in which he not only would have diffused had he not luckily stepped out fully three yards down the pitch to hit Brown, he missed the ball and paid the penalty by being easily stumped. The fielding of both sides was keen and neat all through, very few mistakes being made by either team. The following are the full scores and bowling analyses:

Flores
B. J. Dillon, lb w b Moroney... 87
R. W. Rudd, c R. W. Anderson... 30
F. E. Jones, b H. Anderson... 25
A. Boyd, b H. Anderson... 20
B. B. Syer, b Moroney... 20
W. Brown, c H. Anderson, b Moroney... 0
W. Garrido, b R. W. Anderson... 8
G. Elliot, c R. E. H. Anderson, b Moroney... 4
B. Henderson, c Francis, b R. W. Anderson... 4
B. Gardom not out... 2
T. V. M. Knox, c Jacobs, b R. E. H. Anderson... 19
Extras... 17
Total... 152

Old Bedfordians
F. Jacobs b Knox... 0
A. Anderson c B. Gardom b Brown... 9
E. L. Rumboll b Knox... 2
J. Anderson b G. Elliot... 27
R. E. H. Anderson b Knox... 28
H. B. Anderson, c Syer b Brown... 43

R. W. Anderson b Brown... 14
F. Moroney b Brown... 0
L. Jacobs b Brown... 0
W. Jacobs b Elliot... 0
S. Francis, not out... 2
Extras... 11
Total... 136

BOWLING ANALYSES.

Flores 1st inn.

H. B. Anderson... 15 4 36 2
E. L. Rumboll... 8 1 20 0
F. Moroney... 18 6 51 5
R. W. Anderson... 16 13 39 3
J. O. Anderson... 4 2 9 0

Old Bedfordians, 1st inn.

W. Brown... 17 2 5 47 5
T. V. M. Knox... 17 6 32 3
G. Elliot... 10 1 26 2
R. W. Rudd... 2 0 20 0

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

The annual General Meeting of the Buenos Aires Football Club will be held on Wednesday next, the 14th inst., at 559 Piedad, in the offices of Sport and Pastime. All members are requested to be present and any one wishing to become a member is invited to attend. The object of the meeting is to elect a Committee for the coming season.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Delightful autumn Sunday. Every soul in and out of town in high spirits. All the sports and pastimes went off splendidly. The bores had n't quite so much to say about the explosion, and the narrow escapes of selves and friends from jumping the life to come. The topic of the day was the war between Greece and Turkey, and the seemingly easy way in which the Greeks have scored first blood for the Cross against the Moslems. The object of some of the big players in the great game is now attained. Turkey is at war. Another massacre of Christians, and the Russian Bear will help himself to a bit of the "Pavo's" Asiatic wing; and then the world will see the commencement of the real game.

We were up to our chin yesterday in letters, newspapers, etc., by the Veloce steamer Vittoria; but she has not brought any later dates than the Nile. When she left Europe they had just received the news of the Battle of Tres Arboles.

Again, the wooden headed policy of the Government in refusing to allow a temporary substitute for the Central Station was very much "en evidence" yesterday, when the crowds going to the races, the Zoo etc., were exposed to the wind, sun and dust the ladies, especially complaining bitterly, and the many foreigners in the throng wondering if they had been landed in Kaffir land by mistake for the wanted Argentine Republic. This state of things is simply monstrous, and the sooner the Minister of the Interior puts an end to it the better.

The progress of the B. O. revolution contributed to the high spirits of the public yesterday. There seems not to be a single partizan of the Red Rose in this city. Everybody is looking out for the next battle. The Prensa published yesterday a long and highly interesting letter from its Special with the Blancos. He states that at the Battle of Tres Arboles half the victory of the patriots was due to the dire confusion in the Government ranks; and the unfortunate 2nd Cazadores, after being cut up by the fire of the Blancos, were absolutely fired on in their retreat by their own side, who mistook them for the enemy!! Lamas has no intention whatever of marching on Montevideo for the present. Salto and Paysandu are his points, as there are no troops in either of them. Recruits are flocking to his ranks every day.

Whatever chance Turkey may have of thrashing Greece on land, she stands a right good one of being knocked into a cocked hat at sea. Our distinguished London colleague the Saturday Review describes the Moslem fleet as "rotten." It says—"The notion of Turkey sending a fleet in aid of the Mohammedans in Crete is too absurd to be entertained for a moment. It is matter of common knowledge that the Turkish fleet has not been to sea since the conclusion of the Russo-Turkish War, and is worth no more than old iron. Since '78 it has been rotting peacefully in the Golden Horn. We were shown over one of these Turkish ironclads some years ago, and were informed that there were eight boats on the starboard side in such a state of rottenness that they would have sunk if they had been lowered into the water. And this was quite a normal ironclad. If proof were needed of Turkish stupidity, surely this is sufficient. For Turkey should be a sea Power. What will she do, in default of transports and ships of any kind, should she find herself compelled to send troops to, say, Tripoli or Arabia, or to Albania in order to carry on operations against Greece?"

The military scandal in Chile is over for the present, General Canto, like a good patriot, yielding to the request of his friends, having refrained from making his threatened revelations about the true inwardness of the Chilean army, lest it should injure his country abroad. Good for Canto. But the row won't end with this. The next thing may be mutiny in the ranks against Korney and his brother Teutons ruling the army.

The resident Dons were rather down in the mouth yesterday at the news from the Philippines. The loyal troops have had to suspend operations till reinforcements arrive from Spain. The rebels are still in the field, and for the present are devoting their minds and bodies to the task of murdering priests, burning churches and throwing up entrenchments.

The Viennese take their pleasures as regularly as they do their meals; but they do not neglect business or keep late hours. One thing, perhaps, which helps to keep the young Viennese of moderate means and economical mind regular in his evening hours, is the fact that he must pay to get into his own rooms after ten o'clock. Vienna is one vast system of apartment houses, and a housemaster is in charge of each. At ten o'clock he locks the front door, and anyone desiring to get in after that hour must pay for admittance, and the old resident has no more right to a key than the ephemeral lodger. Now, lodging-house keepers of Argentina's capital, this is a good hint for you to turn an honest penny and improve the hours and morals of your bachelor lodgers at the same time.

Oh! A morning colleague makes the startling assertion that the judgment delivered by the Court in favour of the Catalanas Company, and only published yesterday, was well known to speculators on the Bolsa a fortnight ago!! Who let the cat out of the bag is now the question.

Cruelty to animals seems to be decreasing in this city; either this, or the good and humane Zoos are getting lazy. They had only 115 cases in hand during March. A year ago the monthly cases used to be much more numerous.

Bathing is positively the best cosmetic in the world, and any physician will say so. Regular hours for eating, and abstinence from rich food is the next best, and regular hours for sleeping come third.

One of the London pantomime wheezes is—Why is the English nation the meanest nation on the face of the earth? Because it has kept a sovereign for 60 years without changing it.

The nerves of the people who went to Palermo Park yesterday were not made a bit steadier than usual by the reminder in a morning contemporary that there is a "polvorin" there near the race course and the Central Argentine station, in an old shanty only fit for keeping cocks and hens. It may possibly explode some fine Sunday, and the consequences can be easily imagined. Really, the way human life is trifled with in this country is astounding.

A "polvorin" in a public park, another at Flores, the War Arsenal in a crowded part of the city, war vessels continually in the docks, half the stores in town with dynamite and powder for sale like tea and sugar, and explosives carted through the streets as if they were paving stones. Meanwhile, Government is fast asleep.

A fashionable Paris correspondent says: "The old saying of 'La Noblesse de la Republique' is revived by the approaching marriage of M. Francois Carnot, son of the murdered President, to Mile. Chillis, and that of M. Arago, son of the late Ambassador, to Mile Dupuy. One century has sufficed to create a downright Republican aristocracy. Dating from Lafayette certain families have taken up the succession, amongst these being the Carnots, Aragos, Cavaignacs, Boissy d'Anglas, and Arnauds de l'Ariege. The name of Casimir Perier has been too much bound up with the monarchy to be included in the list. Victor Hugo is the common property of both sides."

The latest rumour in military circles is that the Minister of War will finish his Memoria to Congress this week and then throw up his post and take a trip to Europe, to rub off all the "sinusores," he met with in the War Office. General Capdevila should be his successor.

There are more nuisances in South Africa than the Boers, and should any of our enterprising readers be contemplating a trip to that fine part of the globe, we recommend them to take a few explosive bombs in their pockets to deal with the new plague of "wild dogs" there. The African Critic says—"A new terror has been added to the conditions of existence in South Africa by the increasing ferocity of wild dogs. I learn from a contemporary that, in the neighbourhood of Grahamstown, this pest of the farmer recently assumed a more than usually aggressive attitude, a drove on one occasion having made the most determined attempts to pull a gentleman off his horse. Fortunately the animal, a very restive one, kicked out vigorously and the others immediately ceased their attack upon the rider, and devoted their attention to their stunted companion, when they proceeded to devour."

The present, General Canto, like a good patriot, yielding to the request of his friends, having refrained from making his threatened revelations about the true inwardness of the Chilean army, lest it should injure his country abroad. Good for Canto. But the row won't end with this. The next thing may be mutiny in the ranks against Korney and his brother Teutons ruling the army.

The resident Dons were rather down in the mouth yesterday at the news from the Philippines. The loyal troops have had to suspend operations till reinforcements arrive from Spain. The rebels are still in the field, and for the present are devoting their minds and bodies to the task of murdering priests, burning churches and throwing up entrenchments.

The Viennese take their pleasures as regularly as they do their meals; but they do not neglect business or keep late hours. One thing, perhaps, which helps to keep the young Viennese of moderate means and economical mind regular in his evening hours, is the fact that he must pay to get into his own rooms after ten o'clock. Vienna is one vast system of apartment houses, and a housemaster is in charge of each. At ten o'clock he locks the front door, and anyone desiring to get in after that hour must pay for admittance, and the old resident has no more right to a key than the ephemeral lodger. Now, lodging-house keepers of Argentina's capital, this is a good hint for you to turn an honest penny and improve the hours and morals of your bachelor lodgers at the same time.

Oh! A morning colleague makes the startling assertion that the judgment delivered by the Court in favour of the Catalanas Company, and only published yesterday, was well known to speculators on the Bolsa a fortnight ago!! Who let the cat out of the bag is now the question.

Cruelty to animals seems to be decreasing in this city; either this, or the good and humane Zoos are getting lazy. They had only 115 cases in hand during March. A year ago the monthly cases used to be much more numerous.

Bathing is positively the best cosmetic in the world, and any physician will say so. Regular hours for eating, and abstinence from rich food is the next best, and regular hours for sleeping come third.

One of the London pantomime wheezes is—Why is the English nation the meanest nation on the face of the earth? Because it has kept a sovereign for 60 years without changing it.

The nerves of the people who went to Palermo Park yesterday were not made a bit steadier than usual by the reminder in a morning contemporary that there is a "polvorin" there near the race course and the Central Argentine station, in an old shanty only fit for keeping cocks and hens. It may possibly explode some fine Sunday, and the consequences can be easily imagined. Really, the way human life is trifled with in this country is astounding.

A "polvorin" in a public park, another at Flores, the War Arsenal in a crowded part of the city, war vessels continually in the docks, half the stores in town with dynamite and powder for sale like tea and sugar, and explosives carted through the streets as if they were paving stones. Meanwhile, Government is fast asleep.

A fashionable Paris correspondent says: "The old saying of 'La Noblesse de la Republique' is revived by the approaching marriage of M. Francois Carnot, son of the murdered President, to Mile. Chillis, and that of M. Arago, son of the late Ambassador, to Mile Dupuy. One century has sufficed to create a downright Republican aristocracy. Dating from Lafayette certain families have taken up the succession, amongst these being the Carnots, Aragos, Cavaignacs, Boissy d'Anglas, and Arnauds de l'Ariege. The name of Casimir Perier has been too much bound up with the monarchy to be included in the list. Victor Hugo is the common property of both sides."

The latest rumour in military circles is that the Minister of War will finish his Memoria to Congress this week and then throw up his post and take a trip to Europe, to rub off all the "sinusores," he met with in the War Office. General Capdevila should be his successor.

There are more nuisances in South Africa than the Boers, and should any of our enterprising readers be contemplating a trip to that fine part of the globe, we recommend them to take a few explosive bombs in their pockets to deal with the new plague of "wild dogs" there. The African Critic says—"A new terror has been added to the conditions of existence in South Africa by the increasing ferocity of wild dogs. I learn from a contemporary that, in the neighbourhood of Grahamstown, this pest of the farmer recently assumed a more than usually aggressive attitude, a drove on one occasion having made the most determined attempts to pull a gentleman off his horse. Fortunately the animal, a very restive one, kicked out vigorously and the others immediately ceased their attack upon the rider, and devoted their attention to their stunted companion, when they proceeded to devour."

ARGENTINE SUGAR.

As the milling season for sugar has come to a close the estimate of the total output, based on Tucuman's return of 138,000 tons figures out to 160,000 tons, of which the consumption absorbs 90,000, leaving a surplus of 70,000 tons for export. Sugar will be cheap in England this year. In connection with this it is interesting to note that an engineering concern in the States in constant communication with the sugar planters of Cuba received a number of letters by last mail, all of which, they say, indicate that the few estates that are grinding are doing so at a loss. The owners are obliged to pay the army for protection to their plants. Another item of importance is that there are no animals to draw the cane from the field to the mill, as there are few oxen, horses or mules available. As the planters cannot go into the fields to any extent for the cane, and as the cane which is being ground is mostly burned cane, the crop, it is believed, will fall considerably below that of last season.

Special Notice.

THE IRISH CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION.
IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH MR. PATRICK HAM
TREASURER.

	\$ m/n
Dr	
March 1st—Balance from last month	500.00
18th—To "Farrington"	95.00
21st—D. Costa (bricklayer)	500.00
Balance against the Association	1005.00
E. & L. O.	
The Treasurer.	

B. Ayres, April 6th, 1897.

IRISH ORPHANAGE

Account for March.	\$ m/n
Cash Received.	
Balance from last month	754.10
B. Kelly	5.00
Mrs. Boshan	10.00
Ellen Mulvihill	15.00
Mrs. Kennedy	50.00
From the Treasurer	500.00
	1384.10
Cash paid.	
Baker	297.40
Butcher	108.55
Dairy	92.05
Vegetables	41.10
Sundries	30.16
Grocer	109.10
Fuel	31.12
Soap, light	28.60
Books	30.00
Work-material	29.40
Infirmary	18.30
Balance	550.12
	1394.10

The Sisters of Mercy acknowledge the following presents for Orphanage.
Mr. Patrick Ham, two large trays of cakes on St. Patrick's Day.
Number of children, 127.

(WEEKLY ISSUE.)

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

London, 5th.—The Government has informed the Powers that England will join in the blockade of Greece.
The papers here are of opinion that Col. Vassos and his men will make a desperate resistance, and shed their last drop of blood before leaving the island.
London, 6th.—Mr. Balfour informed the House that the Powers have sent to the Porte and to the King of Greece an intimation for the withdrawal of their troops from Crete, Macedonia and the Thessalian frontier, warning them that the first act of hostility would be the signal for the Powers to fire.
London, 7th.—It is announced by telegraph from Bangkok that the King of Siam, Paramindir Mahar Chulalongkorn, started last night on his journey to Europe. His Majesty proposes to visit especially Italy, France, England and Russia.
London, 7th.—The House of Commons passed to-night, after a sharp debate, the second reading of the Bill for compelling importers of foreign meat to label it clearly as such and to distinctly state whence it comes. By this means it is hoped that the public will no longer be deluded into buying foreign meat under the pretext that it is the genuine home-bred article.
London, 8th.—The shareholders of the Great Western Argentine Railway have sanctioned the arrangement made between the company and the Argentine Government. The company has advanced £1,700,000 in Permanent Bonds, second mortgage, with 4% interest.
London, 9th.—The evening papers announce semi-officially that it is absolutely false that the South African squadron has occupied the island of Inyack.
London, 9th.—Lord Salisbury is unwell and his medical advisers have recommended him to take rest as his health requires great care.
London, 10th.—The Times to-day received a telegram from Ellassona, announcing that a Council of War is sitting under the Presidency of Edhem Pacha to decide on what is to be done in view of Greek's bellicose conduct. The telegram further states that Turkish troops will probably cross the Greek frontier in a short time.
London, 11th (1 a.m.).—The latest despatches received from Macedonia state that it is confirmed that among the Greek bands which have invaded that Province, there are both infantry and artillery belonging to the regular army.
Great anxiety is felt here to know what the Sultan will do.
London, 11th.—The Admiralty has telegraphed to the Commander of the cruiser on the Jamaica station to pursue the "Bermuda" which, under the British flag, is steaming to Cuba with an armed revolutionary expedition on board of her.

FRANCE.

Paris, 5th.—The Senate passed to-day the Bill already voted by the Deputies granting a bounty on refined sugar exported to foreign countries.
Paris, 6th.—It is announced that the Powers have decided to postpone the blockade of Greek ports, although it is said that the blockade will be enforced before the end of the week.
Paris, 7th.—A telegram from Cyprus states that the Greeks resident in that island made yesterday a noisy manifestation in favour of war against Turkey. The Mussulman population, it is added, are intensely irritated at what is occurring in their midst and it is feared that serious disturbances may be the result.
Toulon, 8th.—Two Companies of French marines were embarked to-day for Crete under the command of Colonel Tatin.
Paris, 8th.—The Chamber passed this afternoon by a large majority, and almost without discussion, a bill by which the Custom-duties for the island of Madagascar are reduced to the uniform rate in force throughout all French colonies though the new possession had enjoyed special privileges.
Toulon, 9th.—Two more French men of war have left here to reinforce the squadron in the Mediterranean. They take a number of officers for the other ships of the squadron.
Paris, 10th.—In the Deputies to-day the Radicals revived the Panama question, demanding a Commission of Inquiry into the scandals denounced by Aron. Viscount Hugues, a member of the Right, violently attacked ex-Premier Rouvier for his participation in the scandals. M. Rouvier replied vigorously, and so eloquently that all sides of the House and the public in the gallery applauded him loudly. Premier Meline then spoke, in severe terms of the tricks of the opposition, and asked for a vote of confidence which was passed by 262 to 244 votes. The House then voted adjournment till May 18th, the Premier undertaking to summon it at once in case of anything serious arising in connection with the Eastern question.
Paris, 10th.—Government to-day received a telegram that the French Authorities in the Society Islands have banished Queen Raiatra, and many Chiefs for being implicated in a conspiracy to overthrow French rule. The Queen and other conspirators were only captured after a hard fight in which 50 natives perished.
BERLIN, 9th.—Emperor William has again opened an Anti-Socialist campaign. A considerable number of Socialists have been arrested within the past few days, while documents of a compromising tenor were found in their respective houses and confiscated by the police. The Socialist papers energetically protest against the arbitrary conduct of the Emperor, and the Government will in all probability be interpellated in the Reichstag on this subject.
Berlin, 9th.—The German Government has protested against the occupation by France of the Gurma region in Africa, East of Dahomey, last month; but both Governments have agreed to abide by the decision of a mixed Commission to be named to decide the question.
Berlin, 9th.—The passing of the Dingley Bill by the North American Senate has created a bad impression here, inasmuch as it will harm German trade with the States. There are rumours circulating the Government with the intention of increasing Custom duties on American articles.

GERMANY.

Berlin, 9th.—Emperor William has again opened an Anti-Socialist campaign. A considerable number of Socialists have been arrested within the past few days, while documents of a compromising tenor were found in their respective houses and confiscated by the police. The Socialist papers energetically protest against the arbitrary conduct of the Emperor, and the Government will in all probability be interpellated in the Reichstag on this subject.
Berlin, 9th.—The German Government has protested against the occupation by France of the Gurma region in Africa, East of Dahomey, last month; but both Governments have agreed to abide by the decision of a mixed Commission to be named to decide the question.
Berlin, 9th.—The passing of the Dingley Bill by the North American Senate has created a bad impression here, inasmuch as it will harm German trade with the States. There are rumours circulating the Government with the intention of increasing Custom duties on American articles.

GREECE.

Athens, 5th.—Telegrams from Larissa state that the Crown Prince Constantine has issued an Order of the Day calling on his troops to keep cool to-morrow, the National Independence Anniversary of Greece.
Athens, 6th.—It is known that Colonel Vassos has advised the European Admirals that he is disposed to deliver up the prisoners of Malaxa on condition that the European Admirals turn them out of Crete.
Athens, 6th.—The National Independence anniversary was celebrated here to-day with great enthusiasm. The King and Queen attended the Te Deum in the Cathedral, and afterwards His Majesty reviewed the troops. The enthusiasm was tremendous, the populace cheering Crete and calling for war with Turkey. There was a great manifestation before the statues of the Greek heroes of Independence, and the whole city is now illuminated.

AUSTRIA.

Vienna, 5th.—The Cabinet crisis has finally been solved, the Emperor smoothing over and settling the question on which the ministers had disagreed. Count Badini withdrew his resignation this afternoon.
Bucharest, 7th.—The long threatening Cabinet crisis finally occurred this afternoon. The Ministers resigned "en masse." King Charles I is at present holding a conference with the Presidents of the Chambers in order to solve the present state of affairs.
Vienna, 9th.—A telegram received at mid-day from Ellassona announces that several important bands of insurgents invaded Macedonia to-day from Greek territory. It is added that they were shortly afterwards attacked by Turkish troops and that a fierce fight ensued, which began at 5 this morning and was still progressing when the despatch was sent. It is, however, not known whether amongst the insurgents there are forces belonging to the regular Greek army.

ITALY.

Rome, 5th.—Parliament was opened to-day. The ceremony was made conspicuous by the absence of the Republican and Socialist Deputies, whilst the speech from the Throne and Government's political programme were most cordially received by both Chambers. The telegrams referring to the army and navy, however, awakened some enthusiasm, and repeated cheers were given.
Rome, 6th.—Zanardelli has been elected President of the Chamber of Deputies by 302 votes against 99 others for Cavallotti, Villa, Crispi and others.
Rome, 5th.—The Chamber of Deputies is sitting at this moment. Inbriated, the Irredentist member has severely censured the Government for its action in the East, accusing it of conduct unworthy of a civilized country. Stormy scenes are being enacted and president Zanardelli has already had to call several Deputies to order. The galleries are filled with strangers intensely interested in the debate.
Rome, 9th.—The Minister for Foreign Affairs Visconti-Venosta replied to-day to the interpellations respecting the attitude of the Government in the Eastern Question. The Minister insisted that it was necessary to maintain the equilibrium in Europe in order to obtain liberty for Crete. The debate will be continued to-morrow. The defence made by Venosta is looked on as weak. His task was to echo the policy enunciated in the British and French Parliaments on the burning Question.

TURKEY.

Canea, 5th.—The Bashi Bazouks in Akrotiri massacred a number of Christians to-day, mutilating several women and old men in a most horrible manner.

Canea, 5th.—The rebels near this city attacked the Beiskraria fort, occupied by the troops landed from the French squadron, who repulsed the assault, and there is no danger of the water supply of the town being cut off.

Canea, 6th.—The Turkish Authorities refuse to deliver up to the European Admirals 12 of the ringleaders of the massacre of Christians in Akrotiri.

Canea, 7th.—News has arrived from Sitia that about 2000 rebels have collected near that port, it is believed, with the intention of attacking the city. The commander of the French iron-clad Chanzy landed to-night a strong detachment of marines and seven quick-firing guns, to be ready to repulse any attack that might be made by the insurgents.

Constantinople, 7th.—A despatch has arrived from Beyrut, a city in Asiatic Turkey, announcing that several natives had murdered an officer of high rank in the police. The Mussulmans, attributing the crime to Christians, shortly afterwards, by way of reprisal, killed two of those who were on an exploring expedition in the region of Liban. It is added that in consequence of these crimes it is feared that a general rising is imminent against the Turkish authorities.

Constantinople, 8th.—The Government is still sending more troops to the Greek frontier, and has called out the reserves of the Second Army Corps.

Canea, 8th.—Telegrams from Candia report that the Greek church was destroyed by fire last night. Italian marines saved the whole Greek district from being set in flames.

Canea, 8th.—The Consuls of this city refuse to act on the invitation given by the Admirals of the combined European squadrons, calling on them to open up negotiations with the insurgents on the island. They base their refusal on their inability to pledge themselves to the removal of the Turkish troops, should the Christians lay down their arms.

The Consuls also argue that it is impossible for them to give definite details concerning the scheme of autonomy agreed on by the Great Powers, since such information has been hitherto kept secret.

Canea, 9th.—An Austrian man-of-war arrived here to-day from Kissaon. She brought 27 Mussulmans who were besieged by the rebels but finally succeeded in taking refuge on board the Austrian man-of-war. Kissaon continues besieged and closely watched by rebels who have managed to make several breaches in the walls which surround the town. Utter demoralization prevails in the ranks of the Turks, and it will be difficult for them to resist a well directed attack.

Constantinople, 9th.—The Sultan has received a telegram from Ellassona which Edhem Pacha informs His Majesty that a strong body of Turkish infantry have surrounded the insurgent columns which invaded Macedonia this morning and that the rebels have been compelled to take refuge in the woods, whence they cannot emerge without being utterly routed. The Turkish General adds that he has not yet been able to ascertain whether the Greek regular forces are amongst the enemy; but that should this prove to be the case he will immediately cross the Greek frontier into Thessaly with the main body of his army.

GREECE.

Athens, 5th.—Telegrams from Larissa state that the Crown Prince Constantine has issued an Order of the Day calling on his troops to keep cool to-morrow, the National Independence Anniversary of Greece.
Athens, 6th.—It is known that Colonel Vassos has advised the European Admirals that he is disposed to deliver up the prisoners of Malaxa on condition that the European Admirals turn them out of Crete.
Athens, 6th.—The National Independence anniversary was celebrated here to-day with great enthusiasm. The King and Queen attended the Te Deum in the Cathedral, and afterwards His Majesty reviewed the troops. The enthusiasm was tremendous, the populace cheering Crete and calling for war with Turkey. There was a great manifestation before the statues of the Greek heroes of Independence, and the whole city is now illuminated.

Athens, 6th.—Two British, a French and one Russian warships were here this morning. The official declaration of the blockade has created a storm of indignation, and disturbances are feared.

Athens, 6th (10 p.m.).—A monster meeting was held here this evening to protest against the attitude of the Powers. Deputies, functionaries, officers, journalists, all took part. Violent speeches were made. The general voice was for immediate action to free Crete from the Turkish yoke. The meeting passed to the King's palace and acclaimed His Majesty. The bellicose spirit of the people is alarming.

This evening several rifle-shots were heard in the streets. The soldiery quietly dispersed the assembled crowds.

Athens (3 a.m.).—Hostile manifestations continued during the whole night. The streets were profusely illuminated and the shouting of "La Eschelle" at the arrival of British and Italian volunteers. The same state of things reigns in the latter, but no incident has occurred so far.

Athens, 7th.—The patriotic manifestation here lasted until late last night. Forty thousand people took part in the manifestation. Two hundred persons were arrested for creating a disturbance opposite the Royal Palace.

Athens, 8th.—The Greek Press says that the Government has not yet decided on the answer that is to be returned to the last note presented by the Powers, and in official circles it is asserted that only several days hence will a reply be given and then in evasive terms.

Athens, 9th.—The Government has received the bare notice that three bands numbering 2,600 men to-day invaded Macedonia, but whether more insurgents or regular troops is not known.

The Government received to-day from the Sultan a protest worded almost as an ultimatum, against the continued occupation of Crete by Greek troops.

Athens, 10th.—Telegrams from Ellassona report fighting going on since 11 o'clock this morning between the Turkish troops and the Greek invaders near Gebena. The Turks tried to surround them, but failed, and the Greeks are ready to continue their march forward. The latest despatches say that the Turkish army that took part in the action suffered serious loss at the hands of the invaders.

Four of the advanced Turkish posts were annihilated, and their arms and ammunition captured by the patriots.

Athens 11th, 12.30 a.m.—Bulleins were issued this afternoon by several papers giving an account of what is going on just across the frontier. It is explained that Greek regulars have actually been engaged with Turkish troops, but that they were compelled to do so to defend themselves from an attack made on them by the Sultan's forces, since when the latter were driving across the frontier some insurgent bands, the Greek out-posts were also fired on.

The popular excitement is, if possible, on the increase and a war with Turkey is clamoured for on all sides.

Athens, 11th.—A Telegram from Larissa dated this morning at 3 o'clock announces that fighting still continues between the Greek forces which invaded Macedonia and the Turks. The Greeks have occupied the Turkish town of Balino and are besieging the garrison of 800 men shut up in the barracks.

UNITED STATES.

Washington, 6th.—The Senate to-day voted a resolution inviting President Mackinley to interfere on behalf of Ruiz Rivas, the rebel Chief, at present a prisoner of the Spanish troops.

New Orleans (3 a.m.).—The Mississippi is still rising, causing enormous losses and destructions, leaving the neighbouring people in a most deplorable situation.

Washington, 8th.—The Spanish Legation has advised the United States Government that several filibustering expeditions are on the eve of leaving Florida for Cuba. The United States Government has ordered the cruiser Marblehead to keep a sharp look out and prevent these expeditions from leaving.

Washington, 8th.—The Governments of Germany, Holland and Italy have protested vehemently against the new Custom-House tariff voted by Congress, and it is said that they threaten reprisals should their complaints be left unsatisfied.

New York, 9th.—The steamer Bermuda again sailed from Jacksonville last Tuesday with a full cargo of arms and ammunition for the Cuban rebels in the province of Santa Clara, under the command of Maximo Gomez.

New York, 9th.—To-day's New York Herald contains a very bitter article against Julio Sangui, the rebel chief, on account of his breaking his "parole d'honneur", and again taking an active part in the rebellion against Spain.

SPAIN.

Madrid, 7th.—Official telegrams received this morning from Manila report that the Royal troops under General Lachambre to-day defeated 3000 rebels who occupied Malaban in the Province of Cavite. All the enemy's positions were carried at the point of the bayonet.

Las Palmas, 8th.—The Chilean squadron, which arrived yesterday from England, left this afternoon for Rio de Janeiro. Admiral Coill is in command of the eight vessels, composed of 3 iron-clads and 5 torpedo-boats.

Madrid, 9th.—Telegrams received from Cuba and the Philippine Islands in reference to the wars have created great enthusiasm. Grand patriotic manifestations are occurring daily in Barcelona, Seville and Valencia, which rival each other. All the principal streets in these cities are decked out in flags.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon 7th.—A telegram just received from South Africa brings the alarming intelligence that 25,000 natives have risen in rebellion in the Portuguese possession known as Gazaland. It is feared that the troops in garrison may be unable to cope with the rising.

INDIA.

Bombay, 8th.—The Black Death continues its ravages in this city and in the district of Kolaba the disease is assuming truly alarming proportions. Yesterday in this city 100 deaths from the scourge were officially registered.

MONTEVIDEO.

Montevideo, 8th.

It is also currently reported that Dr. Angel Brian will be appointed Surgeon General of the armies of the Republic and resign the Presidential secretaryship; again that Dr. Alberto Nin or Don Francisco Bauza will be sent on a diplomatic mission to Brazil; also that the great firm of Porteous & Cia, Surveyors to His Excellency, are in a bad way, and have solicited an extension of time to meet their liabilities.

The German steamer Adriana, stranded at Punta de Indio and the goleta Nacional, Marco Antonio, wrecked off Piedra Blanca.

Montevideo, 10th.

The grand distillery "La Eschelle" at La Paz was struck by lightning and four large deposits containing a hundred thousand litres of alcohol destroyed; loss forty thousand dollars gold, insured in the Royal La Plata, and Lancaster.

None of the Duchessa di Genova passengers could land on account of the storm. Your "special" sent a friendly message to Dr. Syntax and family.

Don Nicolas Grati is spoken of as Dr. Brian's substitute and Doctors Mendilaharsu and Terra as successors to present Ministers of Foreign Relations and Finance, in the event of vacancies in these portfolios.

THE WESTERN RAILWAY.

This is the oldest railway in the country and was once the main pillar of the Government of Buenos Ayres. There was a time, about seventeen years ago, when the revenue of this great trunk line and that of the old Provincial Bank could cover the yearly expenditure of the Government of the province: all taxes might have been abolished: the railway and the Bank sufficed. For thirty-three years the railway was the property of the province. From 1880 to 1889 it was sadly mismanaged by the La Plata Governments until an English Company bought the line and took

over the wreckage of the finest trunk line in Argentina. As may be imagined, the English Company had great up-hill work for several years. The line was delivered in such a dilapidated condition that it had become positively dangerous to the travelling public, even in the stretch between the Plaza Once and Flores. We are convinced that we can pay no better compliment to the Company for the valuable services it has rendered this country, to the brains and industry of the management and engineers here, than by recapitulating what has been done since 1880 to make the Western line what it is to-day.

The Western Railway passes in its entire length through the best agricultural land in the province of Buenos Ayres, and has a total length of 493 miles, excluding the branches leased or sold to other companies, having been increased from 326 miles in 1890. Some idea of the improvement effected in a few years and a half, since its purchase from the Government, will be gathered from the following details:

Extensions have been made from:—	
Bragado to Lincoln	104 kilometres
Lincoln to General Pinto	36 "
General Pinto to General Villegas	110 "
Branch from Liniers to Riachuelo	12 "
Branch from Caballito to Chacarita	8 "
Total	265 "

The following buildings have been erected:

18 new stations.	
21 new goods sheds.	
5 new engine sheds.	
1 cereal shed 181 metres long, of two floors.	
1 hay shed of 187 metres long, of two floors.	
Electric light and oil gas works.	
Cereal shed at Riachuelo of 150 metres long.	

New terminus at Once and five general offices, also several odd stations have been almost entirely rebuilt.

The area of storage room in the goods sheds has been increased 70 per cent.

Having regard to the safety of the traffic, the Company have erected interlocking signals at Once (2 cabins), V. Sarfield, Liniers, Merlo, Lujan and Tolosa, and contemplate their erection at Haedo, Bragado and Marmol. They have increased the number of signal arms by 300 per cent, which are interlocked with the points over which passenger trains run. In addition to this, whereas no points at outside stations were connected with the signals, there are now no fewer than 94 so connected.

To further secure the safe working of passenger trains, a system of traps was introduced, by which means wagons can by no possibility be blown from the sidings upon the main line, formerly a cause of extreme danger to the travelling public, and also a system of locking all facing points which were not connected with the signals.

The number of water deposits for supplying locomotives has been increased 60 per cent, and nine semi-artesian wells have been sunk.

Cattle corrals are now provided at all outside stations, and at almost all other stations convenient loading places for tame cattle have been made.

In 1891 and 1892 the line was doubled between Merlo and Lujan, and about 190 kilometres of the old line have been replaced with 70 lb rails instead of the old 54 lb and 68 lb rails. To enable the permanent way to sustain the heavy traffic to which this line is subject, all the extensions and new branches have been laid with heavy section rails and with quebracho sleepers. Formerly there was great want of uniformity in the permanent way, and various classes of sleepers had been used; in very many cases there would be hard wood and iron post sleepers or wood and steel in the same length of rail. Moreover, no care had been taken in the selection of timber employed, and the result was that large numbers of sleepers had decayed until they gave little more than half the bearing surface they should have given.

The ballast has been renewed over nearly 100 kilometres of the railway, and in place of the worn out black earth, "conchilla" or dry ashes have been used, giving a firm, sound road in all conditions of weather.

A further extension is now in hand of 96 miles to Toay, and another is contemplated in the direction of San Rafael.

From the foregoing it will be seen that no efforts have been spared to make this railway one of the, if not the, best in the country. A great many minor improvements have been made, which those who remember what the line was, and now is, will easily call to mind.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Mr. Alberto Martinez's monthly bulletin on the vital statistics of this capital shows that Buenos Ayres is growing fast. According to the municipal statistician, the population of Buenos Ayres on the 28th February last was 717,615; in other words, Buenos Ayres is far and away the most populous city of the Southern hemisphere. If we take the population of all the towns of Chile we find that their aggregate falls much short of the population of the Argentine capital. The population of the Banda Oriental does not much exceed the number within our gates. In fact, Buenos Ayres is to-day one of the great cities of the world. Her extraordinary growth springs from three great advantages, viz.:—

- 1st. A phenomenal birth-rate.
- 2nd. A low death-rate.
- 3rd. Immigration.

Beginning with the birth-rate, we find that the births in Buenos Ayres last month of February a short month, numbered 2,245. If we reckon this short month, the birth-rate would be 37½ per mil, but this would be misleading; the normal birth-rate in Buenos Ayres is 41 per mil; in previous years, say 1893, the rate was as high as 44 per mil, which beats the record, and we see no reason why Buenos Ayres, in the next nine months, should not keep up the record, as we now frequently see that birth rates from 100 to 120 per diem. How favourably this extraordinary birth-rate compares with other great cities of the world, may be gleaned from the following table:—

Cities	Births per 1000 Inhabitants
Buenos Ayres	44
London	30
Glasgow	34
Liverpool	35
Dublin	25
Amsterdam	25
Paris	18
Lyons	22
Bordeaux	35
Munich	32
Berlin	37
Vienna	39
Naples	32

Buenos Ayres is "facile princeps"; and the student of vital statistics may well compliment the matrons of the Argentine capital. The cause of such a heavy birth rate has often been the subject of inquiry, all the more interesting, as on the other bank of the River Plate, in Montevideo, the birth-rate is comparatively low, not exceeding 35 per mil. Some say it is the climate, others the well-being of the people, others the large percentage of young and able bodied males and females from Europe: all this could be argued in favour of Montevideo, necessarily on a smaller scale, yet the results are different. Coupled with a very high birth-rate we see in Buenos Ayres a low death rate, which proclaims this city of Good Airs one of the healthiest capitals in the world. There were 948 deaths in Buenos Ayres in February (still-born are not included in deaths or births). Taking this monthly average, the annual death rate of Buenos Ayres would be 16 per mil. Making allowance for the short month, the death-rate of Buenos Ayres is still under 15 per mil, say 17.52 per mil. But, three years ago, the death rate of this city was 32 per mil, and the enormous improvement since then is due to the extension of the water and sewage works—we may well bless the memory of Bateman for the saving of life wasted by the delays of years in completing his scheme. Andea of the healthiness of Buenos Ayres may be gathered from the following table of death-rate in leading cities:—

Cities	Deaths for 1000 Inhabitants
Buenos Ayres	17½
London	20
Glasgow	28
Liverpool	27
Manchester	25
Birmingham	21
Dublin	26
Edinburgh	19
Rome	22
Vienna	23
Paris	21
Berlin	20

The comparison is much in favor of the Argentine capital, whose natural increase—that is to say excess of births over deaths—is, no doubt, the heaviest in the world, viz.:—

Cities	Nat. Increase per 1000 Inhab.
Buenos Ayres	28.50
New York	4.88
Glasgow	11.00
Liverpool	8.63
London	9.61
Berlin	0.87
Hamburg	17.50
Buda-Pesth	9.40
Vienna	9.31
Brussels	6.14
Amsterdam	14.72
Rome	3.98
St. Petersburg	1.87

The prolific features of Buenos Ayres are abnormal, and call for special remark: the natural increase in this city beats that of all other countries, and compares 10 per mil in the Banda Oriental, 14 per mil in Great Britain, 12 in Germany and 14 in Norway, the highest in Europe.

We think that the foregoing figures suffice to show the excellent hygienic and social conditions of Buenos Ayres: they are simply unique, showing the stamina of the race and the healthiness of the city. At the rate we are going, we may calculate the population of B. Ayres at a round million in another lustrium.

THE NEW BRANCH OF THE LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK.

The opening of the new branch of the London and River Plate Bank, on the far famed Calle Larga, Barracas, called now Calle Montes de Oca, is an event not only important for the market, since it shows the growth and march of the bank's business, but also for the elder class of our readers, who will have a cherished interest in the affair, since it will open the calls of memory

"barrio", as the whole street or road now, from old Langdon's quinta on Calle Buen Orden hill down to the famed Tres Esquinas, is lined with shops, factories, houses, etc. Within a stone's throw of the new bank is the site of the old Atkins quinta, where Rivadavia, the great Rivadavia, hid for a week in an old press, waiting the sailing of one of Mr. Atkins's ships to fly the country. Thirty four years ago the whole Barraca, road was lined with British residences, and the street was as English as old Calle Defensa in those happy days; and right on the hill, and at the top of the Barracas road, is the spot where D. Eduardo Lumb and D. Tomas Armstrong and D. Juan Fair posted two clerks to keep the count of how many carts, horses and men entered during the day, in order to convince the Legislature of Buenos Aires that there would be traffic enough to support the proposed railway to Chascomus! For a branch bank one could hardly hit on a spot better adapted and more likely to prove a convenience to the trade and business of the locality, and we congratulate the directors of the bank on the wisdom of the step.

BUENOS AYRES FOOD-SUPPLY.

A 44 per mil birth-rate and a 17½ per mil death-rate prove to satisfaction that of all the great cities of the world, Buenos Ayres is the most prolific and most healthy. It is just as well that these facts and figures should be spread in the world at large, as until quite recently an impression was abroad that Buenos Ayres, though boasting of a splendid climate, was unhealthy, owing to its primitive sanitary arrangements. Ever since the terrible Yellow Fever Plague, twenty six years ago, this bad reputation has been attached to this city, and this bad reputation was deserved up to well into the nineties, when typhoid fever, small-pox, scarlet fever, etc., carried off thousands of the population yearly, owing to the consumption of "pozor" or well water and the sewage system. To-day no city of over half a million inhabitants can boast of a smaller rate of mortality than Buenos Ayres.

We shall now show how prolific and healthy Buenos Ayres deserves the appellation of the City of the Blest, for we are also the best city in the world. Whatever doubts might be entertained will be removed by a perusal of the figures of the February Municipal Bulletin. In beef and mutton alone Buenos Ayres consumed during that short month:

45,584 carcasses of beef.
55,301 carcasses of mutton.
We may, therefore, calculate the meat supply of this city at the rate of 2 lbs per head per diem. This consumption of meat is a very good criterion of the prosperity of the people. Bossuet it was who said "that the country may be considered most prosperous in which the inhabitants are able to have the largest quantity of meat for their food." In Europe it has been remarked that the urban population consumes twice as much meat as the rural population, either owing to harder work or more affluent means. In Argentina we see the reverse, and people in Buenos Aires consume much less meat than the people in the camp. We see that the meat consumption in Buenos Ayres averages 700 lbs per head per annum. Now let us compare this average with the best fed nation of Europe, Great Britain. According to the latest figures, for 1883, the consumption of meat in the United Kingdom was 105 lbs. per annum per inhabitant against 52 lbs. in France, and over 700 lbs. in Argentina. The disparity is simply colossal, and confirms what we have stated that Buenos Ayres is the best fed city on the globe. Besides beef and mutton the greedy Portenos consumed during February—
516 pigs.
366 sucking-pigs.
287,000 chickens.
10,046 turkeys.
5,408 ducks.
527 brace partridges.
22,639 brace pigeons.
7,628 rabbits.
219 armadillos.
1,345 geese.
10,340 tons of vegetables.
57 tons of cheese.
4,600 tons of fruit.
440 tons of fish.
35 tons of snails.
102 tons of tripe.
511,000 dozen eggs.
4,245 tons of bread.

Readers, study, and digest the above, and confess that the figures are marvellous. To the allowance of 2 lbs of meat per diem, we must add 2 lbs. more of bread, fruit, and vegetables, excluding eggs, butter, cheese, fowl, game, snails, etc., etc. No city, we believe, can present such figures of food-supply in proportion to numbers; but if Buenos Ayres can boast of being the best fed city, we must argue from the above that food waste must be enormous, which accounts for the heavy "basura" service, the crowds of flies and insects, the enormous population of rats and mice, and the large community of dogs. A glance at any "basura" box at the doors of the very "conventillos," at the "basura" carts in our streets, suffices to convince one that this prolific, healthy, well-fed City of the Blest is also the city of the greatest waste.

URUGUAYAN CUSTOMS RETURNS.

South American financial dependence in general is based on the Customs-House. So long as trade keeps good and the customs revenue keeps up all goes merrily and well; but the moment trade halts and the Customs movement slackens off, there is a woe of a lump that affects the whole economy of the state. We may safely say that this holds good from Cape Horn to the Isthmus of Panama, necessarily due perhaps to the sparse populations of new countries not affording a promising field for taxation, whereas the Customs are easily controlled and the incidence of taxation, made neutral so to speak instead of personal, which always renders it less liable to resistance. Thus it is that South America's reliance for the present is placed in the Customs House, and on it hinges financial welfare. Uruguay is an actual example in theory and fact. With the revolution in full swing and trade paralysed the revenue begins to show signs of untimely contraction, a shrinkage, however, that may, and it is to be hoped will, disappear when the cause is removed.

But it is a sad check none the less, and with the country so severely handicapped by debt and troubled by dissension there are evidently dark days in store for our little neighbour. The decrease in the Customs revenue of over 1½ million gold dollars is really serious, and what is more serious still is that the next three months to end of the Uruguayan financial year will probably show a severer decrease still. This as a sequel to fond hopes based upon the working of the new bank. What are our London friends thinking now of poor Uruguay. Will they issue a new edition of their hopes and illusions with "addenda, delenda and corrigenda?"

To come down to bare figures, we find the Customs returns for last month compare as follows with those of same month in previous year.

	\$
Returns for March 1896...	1,101,270
" " " 1897...	726,820
Decrease.....	874,950

To this we must add the sum of \$81,069, previous total decrease, and we thus get a falling off in the Customs House returns of 1896-97 to the end of March of \$1,256,019. We have yet three months to go until the 30th of June, which finishes the economic year, and the falling off in the returns by that date may reach \$2,000,000. The following table will show the difference in the Customs House returns for the months of January, February and March 1897, as compared with the same period in 1896.

	1897	1896
January.....	759,223	1,078,948
February.....	786,374	962,534
March.....	726,820	1,101,270
Total.....	2,271,922	3,142,752

A glance at the above will suffice to show that the returns have fallen off \$59,780 during the first three months of 1897 alone.

Let us now go back to 1895 and compare the Returns for the months of November and December with those of the same period in 1896. The following is the result.

	1896	1895
November.....	665,115	776,273
December.....	731,903	920,604
	1,397,008	1,696,877

This table shows that there was a falling off, of \$299,869 in the months of November and December 1896, as compared with the same period during the preceding year. This sum added to \$857,730 falling off in January, February and March of the current year will show us the startling decrease of \$1,359,599 in the short space of five months. Great part of this state of affairs is, there is no doubt, due to the revolution.

We will now show the steady decrease in the returns from October 1896:

	1896	1895
October.....	Less	52,413
November.....	"	111,158
December.....	"	188,701
January.....	"	308,620
February.....	"	176,160
March.....	"	374,949
Falling off up to March 31st ult.....	"	1,212,006

THE DEPARTURE OF GENERAL TAJES.

In these latitudes of dilly-dallying, formalities and red tape, time is never at a premium, and we are inclined to think that the most remarkable feature about this much talked of Tajes Mission is its brevity. Why, the General arrived only a few days ago. True, on the following day he set to work, presented his credentials and quaffed a glass of wine with the president. There was a simplicity about the ceremony which must have struck the General and possibly made him ponder on the mutability of things, for it is not so many years ago since he was entertained in the same Government house, but on such a scale that the Chief Culinary Knight was enabled to erect a magnificent building in the Calle Florida and start a restaurant in the style of Masquerie's of Boulevard fame. But things have changed. Above all B. Ayres has changed, and the General has been quick to observe it. The Avenida de Mayo astonished him. The Acetylene Gas dazzled him. Formerly he was stunned by the extravagance of the race. To-day he sees progress and enterprise on every side, and a certain thriftiness, which is stamped even on the Government House. Had he gone to the Denney encampment, he would perhaps have been still more surprised, for there he would have seen the rough arguments with which this growing nation, regenerated by crisis and experience, would settle questions as to the occupation of coal-mining stations and others "ejusdem farinae."

His mission has been brought to a close, and we are told that he is expected this morning in Montevideo. On Thursday last he took his leave of President Uriburu and of the Foreign Affairs Minister. In the course of the interview, he called attention to what might seem a violation of Argentine neutrality. He complained that the Hotel-Committee met in Buenos Ayres and planned expeditions to the Banda Oriental. But his fears were promptly dispelled. Both the President and his obsequious Minister told him that the police were continually watching the movement of the Committee. The General expressed himself thoroughly satisfied, and yesterday he left for the Mont.

As our readers will see, there is nothing in all this that the ordinary Minister of Uruguay could not have done, and we are therefore at a loss to explain why so important a personage as the ex-President of Uruguay should have been chosen to accomplish what must appear to all as the simplest and the most logical duty of a diplomatic representative—unless, of course, there were at the root of the Special Mission some deep international move, some serious state-secret, which it would not be advisable for the public to know. And this is more than likely. There is no smoke without fire. Whence sprang the rumor of the sale or cession of Gorri Island to a foreign Syndicate? Does it not appear significant that the revival of this rumor was followed by a Special Mission conducted by the most prominent personage in Uruguay? And is it not significant that, since General Tajes presented his credentials, there has been a better feeling between Uruguay and Argentina, a feeling brought into prominent relief by the filling of the long-vacant Argentine Legation in the Mont?

It is, no doubt, part of a statesman's business to throw dust in the eyes of the people. It is dangerous to see too much, but the nervous system of the public now a days is so highly strung that it detects the presence of state-secrets. Everyone to-day feels that General Tajes crossed the river to see whether Argentina be not better as a friend than an enemy.

ABUSE AND EQUANIMITY.

One of Argentina's leading public men stated the other day that there was no people on the face of the world more easily governed than the Argentine, more especially the citizens of this city; he argued that there was no need of a military garrison, and that a handful of policemen could keep order under any decent government. Some may look on this as a compliment to the population, but we view it in another light. We are a tame population, and we deserve all the taxes and all the rebuffs that are heaped upon us. Witness the daily scenes at the old Central Station—reminds one of chapters on barbaric Africa. Thousands of women and children exposed to a fierce sun or to hail and rain—calmly, listlessly waiting for trains—driven into pens like sheep and cattle into a "corral" or "breta." This is quite good enough for the tame public of Buenos Ayres. In other countries, where there is more sense, less cant, the shebeens that disgrace the travelling public at the foot of the Calle Piedad and within stone-throw of the gaudy portals of the Government House, would be demolished or burned to the ground by an indignant mob.

Here there is no mob, and people are too genteel for this kind of thing, although no man shirks from taking the law into his own hands when he cocks a revolver or draws a dagger. The edictivity in this country have not a spark of public spirit, and whether out of regard for the tender feelings of the Central Argentine and B. Ayres Ensenada Railways, or out of fear for the "autoridad publica," the scandal at the Central Station site is allowed to go on without any forcible protest. No wonder the men in the Government House, the men in the Municipality, who are elected by the people, are so Portenos, sneer and say to the fleeing, despised, and suffering public—"sic vos non vohis."

Verily, the public deserve nothing better—they do not know their power, they do not give their vote, they are not in their money-grubbing that humiliation, what afflictions they must undergo. Not so in the capitals of Europe, where lamp-posts have not been put up in vain, and are a gentle reminder to the governor, the minister, the deputy, the senator, and the councillor.

Just as we see waggoners threading their way through our thoroughfares laden with gun-powder, dynamite, or gun-cotton; just as we see people killed by overhead electric wires; just so some day we shall see half the shipping in the docks of the port wrecked by the explosion of some man's private, and elected by the neglect for public safety will go on until some fine day the Government Cabinet, or the Municipal Council are sent skyward—or the other way—and make a lasting impression on this tame public, that some spirit is wanting to force the hands and brains of the men in power. We are only sorry that Thursday's gun-powder explosion did not take place in the Cabildo of Buenos Ayres to bring the paid Mayor to his senses, if but to put a roof above our heads on the Central Station site, put down the over-head electric wires, and put an end to the free and easy transportation of explosives through the streets of this good and tame city.

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION AND FIRE.

THREE KILLED, EIGHT INJURED.

CABINET ALARMED.

ENORMOUS CROWDS.

The whole town was startled yesterday at 5.45 p.m. by a terrible explosion in Calle 25 de Mayo, between Piedad and Calle Rivadavia. The fearful detonation, occurring when the centre was full of fire, naturally caused the wildest excitement. Men, women, and boys of every social grade ran in hundreds to the spot where the ominous column of smoke was rising. Several of the Government House guard galloped to the scene, the mounted policemen hurried up, and in an incredibly short space of time were followed by the fire-engines which rattled up amid the frantic cheering of the surging crowd which had already collected in the Plaza and filled every available space in the adjoining streets.

We give the following account of the explosion and fire as witnessed by Mr. H. B. Downing, a subscriber, who was standing in a cafe opposite the "Almacén Suizo," when the accident occurred. "I was standing at the doors when two four-wheeled waggoners drew up opposite the above named store. Suddenly I heard a terrible explosion and noticed a column of smoke and a cloud of dust remained of one of the carts, except a few bits of twisted iron and broken wheels. Both cartmen disappeared blown to bits. The only thing that remained being two horses of the foremost carts. Five minutes had not elapsed the "Almacén when Suizo" was in flames while several houses adjoining including the Cafe, where I was standing, had their windows shattered and doors singed. The whole pavement was strewn with bits of burnt wood and clothing. The bomb-throwers were on the scene shortly after the accident, but their superhuman efforts to put out the fire proved useless and the whole building of the Almacén Suizo was completely gutted at 8 o'clock.

12.15 a.m. We are now able to give the official report of how this awful catastrophe occurred. A case of dynamite was brought up in front of the Maritime Agency of Ros and about shortly after 5 p.m. it contained a box of fireworks—squibs, rockets, bombs etc.—which had just arrived from the fiscal warehouse, refused admission on account of its contents; consequently, it was to have been left for the night in the agency previous

to shipment by the s.s. Mercedes to Corrientes where presumably the fireworks were to entertain the populace at some local fête.

The cartman, assisted by the 2 men employed by the agency, had already lifted the heavy case down from the cart and were in the act of carrying it across the pavement into the office when the frightful explosion occurred. The cartman was literally blown to pieces as an arm was picked up in the Paseo de Julio—littered right over the intervening block of houses—while his head was blown 10 yards away into the street and the trunk of the body was actually deposited on the roof of Mr. Boudle's office.

His companions, both of whom were killed, suffered somewhat less severely, though one was utterly shattered the other did not present quite such a shocking spectacle.

The cause of the explosion can never with accuracy be ascertained; but it is supposed that one of the three men must have been smoking and that a spark from his cigarette must have dropped inside one of the crates of the box.

The force of the detonation shattered the contents of the next premises, the Almacén Suizo, bottles of spirit and all the miscellaneous contents of the shop were scattered to pieces and some of the squibs flying in immediately set the whole place on fire. The inmates barely had time to save themselves when the flames enveloped the shop-premises. The house had three floors, the first one being occupied as an office by Mr. Edward Casey, and the upper one by the family of Mr. Roger Chamberlain. However, happily, every one succeeded in escaping in time.

One of the peones carrying the box, immediately after the explosion, was heard to cry out "Matame!" "Matame!"—his face was charred beyond recognition and shortly afterwards death brought relief to his agony.

Altogether there were 3 men killed and 8 wounded the latter being principally men employed in the Almacén, but one at least was a passer-by. The names of the wounded are—Manned Carlos and B. Lopez, F. Hornos, P. Pampillon, F. Figueroa, Guillermo Rey and Diego Massini.

Wonderful to relate the three horses harnessed to the wagon escaped scatheless, though the vehicle itself was blown into splinters.

When the accident occurred, Dr. Uriburu was in his room at the Casa Rosada, while Ministers Escalante, Villanova, Bermejo and Quirino Costa, were also at work in their respective quarters. The clerks in the building spread the report that a dynamite bomb had been exploded, and the four Ministers at once hurried to the President's room: the guard of 50 men were drawn up in front of Government House, and for a moment great consternation prevailed. Eventually great troops were despatched to aid the police. All this naturally gave rise to the report that a dynamite bomb had blown up the Casa Rosada. In fact the wildest rumours ran from mouth to mouth all over the city.

The firemen worked like heroes and succeeded in localizing the conflagration which illuminated all the centre of the city. The house itself was completely gutted.

The property was owned by that most unfortunate of men, Mr. Bombal, the alleged victim of the famous Fané, and was fully insured in eight companies for \$100,000.

A Sub-Lieut. of firemen was injured when endeavouring to pass out at the back of the burning house to direct his men.

The wounded were conveyed to the Asistencia Publica, where some of them lie in a critical state.

Dr. Sussini was early on the scene with ambulances and doctors, and when the injured reached their destination 18 "practicians" had collected to render aid.

Everything concerned with the management of the fire-brigade and assistance to the injured was promptly and well carried out, but time does not permit of further particulars this morning.

April 10th

Thousands of people yesterday visited the scene of disaster in the Calle 25 de Mayo. Within two blocks from the corner not a pane of glass has been left intact. Indeed it is difficult to believe that anything but dynamite could have caused so terrible an explosion. The occurrence of so appalling an accident in a most central street should awaken the attention of the Municipality to the necessity of controlling and limiting the conveyance of explosives. It is not more than two months ago that the whole city was shaken by a terrible explosion in Almagro, owing to the carelessness of an employee in a fireworks factory. Powder, of course, is made to explode, but the public have a very strong objection to be blown over the moon. There is no better teacher than experience, but we may safely infer that Alcendras and his ediles did not learn much by the Almagro explosion.

Thursday's accident comes as a second warning, and another one like it would, we think, be productive of an explosion of even something more terrible than dynamite—we mean public indignation, which often finds rather violent forms of expression.

Deeds of heroism are recorded in connection with this terrible explosion. On Thursday Lieut. Colonel Coquet, a brave officer in the Argentine Army, was in the Government House when the catastrophe occurred, and immediately rushed over to render assistance. Arriving at Lopez's Almacén, now a mass of ruins, he saw a peon sitting on the pavement crying bitterly. On enquiring the cause of the poor man's distress, the brave officer was told that the peon's wife and little child were in a room on the second story of the building, while the flames were rapidly devouring the wooden staircase. Nothing daunted, Coquet mounted the burning staircase and arriving at the peon's room found the wife and child huddled up in a corner. To seize both, rush to the balcony and throw the mother into the arms of a couple of stalwart firemen was the work of a minute, while the child and rescuer were saved a few minutes later by means of a ladder put up against the balcony. Coquet descended the little one tightly clutched in his arms. Colonel Calaza performed a somewhat similar feat by jumping into the cellar of the burning Almacén and saving a sub-lieutenant of bomb-throwers who had fallen in amongst a number of barrels containing aguardiente and other inflammable liquids. The heroic Calaza caught the young officer round the waist with a strong grip, and, fighting his way out

amidst burning timbers and heaps of masonry, carried his burden safely into the street.

A peon named Juan, and employed by Messrs. Juan Antonio Fernandez and Carlos Rodriguez Larreta, was closing the offices of his employers when the explosion occurred. The poor man was literally mutilated by pieces of wood and debris. The shutters and doors of his employers' office were torn off their hinges and smashed into splinters.

Don Benito Passerini, a respectable merchant, passing through the Calle 25 de Mayo when the explosion occurred, was lifted off his feet, and thrown 30 metres away. Fortunately he received no injuries, getting off with a severe shaking.

Another young man received a shock that knocked him off his feet, while his hat was carried over the top of a house close by.

Ramon Casas, Pablo Pampillon, Francisco Figueroa, and Antonio Zoutava, were at the San Roque hospital in a dying condition.

The watch that Casas had on when the explosion occurred was found embedded in his abdomen! and on being extracted was found to have stopped at 5.45 p.m.

The Asistencia Publica behaved admirably in succouring the injured, no effort being spared to alleviate the terrible sufferings of the victims. Ambulance carts and "camillas" were on the scene of the catastrophe in less than ten minutes after it occurred.

The Bolsa Casino, occupied by Mr. Dionisio Cornielle, was insured in La Confianza for \$25,000, while the property belonging to Mrs. Ovalle, and is valued at \$500,000.

The building of the Club Ciclista Argentino in Calle 25 de Mayo was damaged to the extent of \$500. A cigar shop belonging to Gerónimo Alegret and situated in the same street was also damaged. Salvetti's Shipping Agency lost \$500 by the breakages of windows, doors and ceiling-plaster.

An Exchange Bureau, property of Jose Schiapp also was damaged to the tune of 500 dollars.

OUR EXPORTS TO THE STATES.

According to telegrams received yesterday, the Dingley Tariff is giving rise to a deal of resentment all over the world, and our esteemed colleagues take special pleasure in commenting on all the threats of retaliation thundered from Berlin, Vienna, and other great centres of Europe. Meanwhile, in the American Senate the protectionist fever is still rising, and the latest piece of news is that a specific duty may be proposed at any moment on wools coming under the third category, at the rate of five cents per pound. Argentines must not be alarmed at these advices, as our American cousins must buy a certain class of our coarse wools, and the high duty falls only on the American people; just as the Argentine duty on export of hide falls on Argentines not on Americans.

The new revenue or protectionist tariff of the United States will not tend to increase our commercial relations with the Big Republic. As matters stand our trade with the United States is declining. We have written on this subject frequently and at length, but it was only yesterday that we managed to compile a table of the exports from Argentina to the United States in 1896—figures that have not yet been made public and which will excite much interest. Beginning with quantities we find that the exports during 1895 and 1896 to the States compare as follows:—

	1895	1896
	Tons	Tons
Sugar.....	25	6,387
Goat-skins.....	845	985
Kid-skins.....	4	—
Sheepskins.....	510	38
Nutria-skins.....	1	½
Salted-hides.....	2,085	—
Dry hides.....	16,039	9,643
Quebracho extract.....	42	105
Bones.....	7,659	4,800
Wool.....	12,187	9,550
Lime-wood.....	19,000	—
Jerked Beef.....	833	87
Bird-seed.....	555	492
Rags.....	184	13

The only item that shows a great increase is sugar—and when the Dingley Tariff is in force we must abandon all hopes of seeing our sugar travel to the States, as special care has been taken to burden bounty-fed sugar exports not so easily with a heavy import duty. America will collect on our bounty-fed sugar a further duty equal to the bounty paid here. This is prohibitive with a vengeance, and will hurt the feelings of our Union Azucarera. We see in the above table that wool and hides show a very sharp falling-off. In the following table of the value of exports to the States the total of our export trade thither can be easily grasped and compared:—

	1895	1896
Produce.....	\$ gold	\$ gold
Bird-seed.....	15,000	9,000
Horns.....	3,000	—
Saw-dust.....	—	100
Preserved meat.....	4,000	955,000
Sugar.....	7,200	2,250
Cedar.....	810,000	121,000
Horse-hair.....	507,000	580,000
Goat-skins.....	6,200	—
Kid-skins.....	3,300	—
Sheepskins.....	54,000	4,200
Nutria-skins.....	1,500	700
Salted hides.....	293,000	—
Dry hides.....	5,802,000	2,940,000
Salted horse hides.....	1,600	—
Various hides.....	5,000	1,000
Quebracho extract.....	4,800	10,500
Hide-cuttings.....	600	4,000
Bones.....	83,000	44,000
Dried wool.....	1,822,000	1,714,000
Lime-wood.....	321,000	—
Ostrich feathers.....	7,000	5,000
Dry blood.....	2,000	—
Tallow.....	21,000	—
Jerked beef.....	56,000	2,500
Tripe.....	2,000	3,000
Rags.....	1,800	100
Various.....	113,800	1,650
	\$,947,000	6,401,000

Thus, the export trade to the States which amounted to \$8,947,000 in 1895 fell to \$6,401,000 in 1896. If this decline takes place under the comparatively liberal provision of the present American tariff, what a "degrading" must ensue under the Dingley Revenue Tariff! It looks as

if in the near future our exports to the Big Republic will be reduced to, say, seven thousand tons of wool and ten thousand tons of dry hides! Then we shall have a fine opportunity of talking of reciprocity and the plausibility of extending our commercial relations with this North—especially if Argentines are foolish enough to put on more duties on kerosene, lumber, and agricultural machinery. It is a melancholy thing at this tail end of the Nineteenth Century to see nations regarding themselves with Chinese walls, in the shape of prohibitive tariffs that shut out the world and cause no end of misery to humanity at large.

OPENING OF THE GRAVING DOCKS.

April 11th
The preliminary opening of the graving docks at the northern extremity of the port took place yesterday. Mr. Dobson, the well-known engineer and member of the contracting firm of the Port Works, had organized an excursion for the occasion, and all who had the good fortune to be present enjoyed a very pleasant day's outing. At 2 p.m. the guests began to arrive and to assemble at the southern extremity of Dock 3, where the port steamer Burslem, in all the glory of flags and bunting, was snugly moored awaiting the party. Most of us who stood there on the wharf remembered the primitive times when the Plate flowed uncontrolled over the present site of the monumental port works; when carts plied through the shallow waters between the coast and the lighters, when the never to be forgotten mole stretched its skeleton or some hundred yards into the river. In those days the ocean-going monsters that lie at a stone's throw from the present House used to anchor ten or fifteen miles out. But for the energy, the enterprise and, we might even say, the imagination of Eduardo Madero—for it required a brilliant effort of fancy to peer into the future, and perceive in the penumbra of coming events such a port as to-day embellishes this country and symbolises its vitality—how for Eduardo Madero, say we, the amphibious cart might still be plying to and the old mole standing. But turn we to yesterday's ceremony, which, as we have already said, was of a preliminary character, for the official inauguration of the graving-docks is to be celebrated in due time. At 2 p.m. there was quite a knot of guests on the deck of the Burslem, while the genial host kept looking out for others who had yet to be welcomed. "En fin" towards 2.30 p.m. we moved slowly and, we presume, majestically, for the Burslem is a fine boat, breathing gracefulness and strength. We passed into Dock 2, then to No 1, then to the Darsena—ocean going vessels lining the sides, loading or unloading.

It had been the intention of Mr. Dobson to issue from the port and come round by the North Channel thus entering the splendid new basin. It certainly would have been a delightful trip, for the day was mild and the sun just warm enough to make a strong breeze agreeable. But time pressed, and we retraced our course. As we passed into dock 4—recently opened—the corvette Argentina saluted us, and an unpretentious dredge treated us to a dismal howl which, though pleasant to the mind as an indication of vapoury welcome, was anything but agreeable to the tender tympanum of the unaccustomed ear. Soon we burst on the beautiful expanse of the north-basin. Near the entrance stands a neat pile, just presented by Messrs. Madero, as a Hydrographic Office and Observatory with all necessary appliances, to the National Government.

While we gazed at the entrance which seemed to most of us to be of uncommon width, the Burslem came emptying the landing between the two graving-docks. We jumped ashore and peered wonderingly and not without a sense of dizziness into the enormous cavity of the excavation—colossal baths for the giants of commerce. The pumping-house—a neat, red brick structure—stands between the two docks, and here we had occasion to inspect the powerful engines which within three hours can empty either of the docks. The first part of the ceremony now began. Mrs. Madero, Mrs. Massini and Mrs. Silveira lit the boiler-fires. We then proceeded to the West Dock, which Mrs. Dobson and Mrs. Walker inaugurated. The valves were opened, and immediately there burst on the ear a rumbling, subterranean noise, followed by a roar and a splash; and in rushed the waters, foaming, seething, jumping, boiling, raging like an army of mountaintorrents, and filling us, spectators, with an indescribable awe of Nature's forces, of which this mad flow harnessed in the service of man, was but an insignificant fraction. True to calculation, 30,000 tons of water rushed into the dock within 20 minutes. And when the liquid, following a natural law, had found its level in the heavy caisson, which had withstood the pressure of the Plata, and guarded the artificial cavity, swirled gently, slowly, moving round gradually. It was a splendid sight highly suggestive of the all-conquering genius of man, and of the power of labor, enterprise and capital.

The West-Dock has a length of 150 metres; the other of 180. In our next we shall give some technical particulars which will be found interesting. We now jumped into the train which awaited us, and after sh

Mrs. Carmona, Mr. and Mrs. Rankin, Mr. and Mrs. Adam, Mr. and Mrs. Tomkins, and Messrs Longfield, Harrison, Van Rens, Gonsalves, Liversidge, Mulhall, Cassini, Wallis, Junior, Amespi, Ghilazzi, etc., etc.

MR. NICHOLAS MIHANOVICH.

Faithful to our promise, we give here, under some biographical particulars of this extraordinary man, whose wonderful success in life may be traced directly to qualities which any one may cultivate: activity, energy, sobriety, and love of work which is a logical consequence of the combination of the three. Mr. Mihanovich was born in Doli, in the province of Dalmatia in Austria, and in his boyhood assisted his father, who was humbly employed in the conveyance of wines from one district to another. Young Nicholas subsequently went to sea. He embarked as a sailor on board an English vessel bound for the River Plate. On his arrival in Montevideo, he deserted. Barefooted, he wandered to the nearest exchange-shop to change the only money he had in the world, a one franc piece. To his intense dismay the coin proved to be a false one. That was in the year 1866. He managed to come up to Buenos Ayres, scraped a few dollars together, and went off to the Paraguayan war to start a campaign. This put some money into his pocket, and on the conclusion of that terrible campaign, he returned to Buenos Ayres and bought a whale-boat. The purchase was the starting-point of his success and fortune. He conveyed passengers to the steamers in the Roads. He carried goods. He saved money. He purchased another boat, and then another. Trade grew and Mihanovich prospered. Subsequently he entered the house of Matti and Piers, owners of a few tugs. He soon made his presence felt and rapidly acquired the management of the concern. Then he started on his own account and bought two tugs, the Buenos Aires and the Kitty. In 1873, his business was so flourishing that he bought the steamers Feliz Esperanza, Sol Argentino, Rivadavia and Tejedor. Two years later, he started the Toro on the Bahia Blanca route. He conveyed material for the Southern Railway to the Liverpool of the South. He likewise started a steamship service to Staten Island in the South Atlantic, but this was quickly abandoned, for in spite of a Government subsidy, the business did not pay expenses. According as his fleet was increased by his judicious purchases, he kept opening new lines to different towns. It was he who started the service to Colonia and Carmelo. In 1888 he purchased for \$60,000 the fleet belonging to Mr. Santiago Massalin, and comprising four steamers. In the following year he acquired the 13 steamers belonging to the Kapida Co. He paid \$440,000. He also purchased the five steamers belonging to the Remoladora paying \$170,000 gold. From Mr. Vicente Casares he bought ten lighters for \$140,000, and from Mr. Carlos Casado two tugs and eleven lighters for 772,000. About the same time he had the following splendid tugs built in Entree: Dalmacia, Austria, Kola, Adriatico, Drysdale, Count Knaock, Villar, Torito, Atlantic, Luis Huergo, Kola and Dona Catalina. The Dalmacia was built in the Riachuelo. He moreover, purchased a tug and five lighters from the Central Argentine Railway Co., the steamer Luna from Lamport and Holt, the Queen Victoria from the Southern Railway Co., three steam barges and two steamers from W. Samson and Co., and finally the Platense steamers for \$28,000 and the Golondrina for \$20,000. In 1882, Mr. Mihanovich was appointed Agent of the Austrian Lloyd and representative of several Austrian Steamship Companies. In 1887 he was appointed Austrian Consul General. Emperor Francis Joseph has conferred two decorations on him. Mr. Mihanovich's flag flies over the following steamers: Venus, Eolo, Saturno, Olimpo, San Martin, Golondrina II, Lucero, Luna, Lafayette, Aurora, Austria, Adriatico, Ariello, Assab, Batutu, Castor, Czar, Conde Kalpoky, Cardiff 51, Dalmacia, Delta, Dona Catalina, Dalmato, Doli, Drysdale, Enriquetta, Guano, Luis Huergo, Maldonado, Monte Lundo, Nuevo Leon, Noord, Oriente, Onix, Pingo, Presidente Mitre, Presidente Roca, Presidente Sarmiento, Presidente Derqui, Presidente Urquiza, Presidente Avellaneda, Presidente Rivadavia, Primer Correntino, Rapido, Stagno, Torito, Valcorrentino, Vigilante, Victory, Venus, Villar, Indiferente, Queen Victoria, Koeln, and 56 sailing-vessels.

THE URUGUAYAN REVOLUTION

April 7th. The calling-out of the National Guard in the Banda Oriental is a step of such deep importance that we are inclined to look on it as an indirect confirmation of the rumors of the defeat of Generals Muniz and Arribio. This calling-out must not be confounded with the inscription of the National Guard, which the official place some weeks ago and was evidently intended to be a source of revenue for the Government, since one of the articles of the decree provided that those unwilling to serve could, on the payment of a specified sum, procure a dispensation and substitute. But even in this Banda was mistaken, for the Blancoes inscribed their names or took to flight. Now the Guard is called out although General Tajes, the Special Envoy to our Government, stated on his arrival here that President Borda would not have occasion to arm the National Guard. From this we infer that things are critical. Let us now turn to the news of the moment. From Montevideo we can expect nothing for the telegraph wires are in the hands of the Government inspectors; and indeed so little information is vouchsafed to the public there that the inhabitants of the Queco City are completely in the dark, their last source of news, the B. Aires papers, having been suppressed. News and reports and rumors now come from the frontier, over Argentine wires; and although it is difficult to determine the true measure of veracity of information springing directly from rebel sources, there is nevertheless such persistence in the report (forwarded to us several days ago, by our special envoy to the frontier), of General Muniz's defeat, that "there must be something in it."

If we may place any reliance on the above-mentioned sources of information, General Muniz has been defeated by the

combined forces of Lamas and Saravia. Lamas, by a clever move, must have succeeded in securing Muniz and Arribio, and the latter with all his artillery is reported as stuck in the marshes in the neighbourhood of the frontier. Muniz had 2,500 men, and the rebels must have been at least 7,000 strong. After the discomfiture of Muniz and the flight of the remnants of his forces, Lamas and Saravia pushed on vigorously inland. At this moment they must be in the heart of the country, with a line of communication and supplies well established. The calling out of the National Guard would lead us by induction to the events we have just mentioned.

According to the Rebel Committee here Lamas and Saravia are marching rapidly on the town of Minas which is barely defended by a handful of half-scared policemen. It is probable the town will fall, and the Rebels will then direct their steps towards Rocha, defeat General Pacheco, who is wandering about hopelessly, and join Muniz, whose defeat he is probably unaware of, for Lamas has upset the tactics of the three Generals in a neat and admirable manner.

The defeat of Pacheco would of course prepare the way for the march on Montevideo, the last stronghold of Borda and his clique. The rapid succession of rebel triumphs would so completely demoralize the Coloradoes that no resistance could be made at the Mount. Indeed, as we write, we learn that Com. Aguiar and his officers and men in San José have risen against the established order of things.

In addition to the foregoing reports, we may say that the Rebel Committee have received advice to the effect that Col. Beltran, at the head of 750 men, engaged part of Lamas's forces and was defeated and put to flight, leaving 95 killed on the field. Beltran, it appears, had been drawn into a cleverly laid trap. Beltran was on his way to join Arribio, when Lamas dispatched a detachment to feign an engagement and flight, and this drew him towards the bulk of the Rebels. The plan succeeded admirably. Lamas had 4 killed and 17 wounded.

April 9th. Telegrams from Montevideo report that the greater part of the branch railway line from Montevideo to Nico Perez has been destroyed by the rebels. A strong detachment of rebels is also at Nico Perez.

Government continues displaying feverish activity with reference to taking measures to suppress the rebellion, which by the way is gaining ground in leaps and bounds.

Colonel Ricardo Flores, the hero of Tres Arboles has left Paysandu for Montevideo with what remains of his brave regiment. General Villar has received orders to march on Montevideo.

Lamas is reported on good authority to have no less than 10,000 men under his command, all these are well armed and very fairly drilled.

A later telegram received announces that General Muniz's forces have been cut up by rebels, and disorganised. Detachments of regular troops are retreating in all directions closely pursued by rebels. Lamas has several times tried to give General Arribio battle, but the latter, uncertain of victory, always avoided an encounter.

President Borda is it appears, afraid that Lamas intends marching on Montevideo, and hence the order to General Villar and Colonel Flores.

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL.

To the Editors of the STANDARD,

Dear Sirs,

On the 28th ulto. you published a communication upon the above subject, which at the very first glance is open to serious criticism.

In the first place it is a manifest absurdity that any bona fide communication to your columns, supposed to emanate from the "Anglican Diocesan Council of the River Plate," should be guaranteed by the signature X. Surely, formal or even informal communications from such an august body should appear over some other signature than that of an unknown quantity.

In the next place, there is a parochial character about the proposal, apparent from the veil of loyalty and eloquence with which it is backed up, which makes the suggested Queen Victoria School an utterly inappropriate subject for discussion in connection with the Queen's Jubilee. Surely, the Bishop's Council could never for a moment entertain seriously the idea that any denominational object, however praiseworthy, could be a fitting mode of celebrating the event.

The patriotism that begins and ends at home, even if that home be a church, is liable to be mistaken for some other quality.

Let me, however, call attention to what seems to be a serious discrepancy between X's article and the official report of the meeting of the Bishop's Council.

Your correspondent reveals a fact, which the official report confirms, that the meeting of the Bishop's Council was convened, not in the usual way, but by the Vicars of Quilmes and Belgrano. These Vicars are, no doubt, honorable men; but they cannot possibly have any real knowledge of the character of the education given in the country or of the requirements of the country in this direction.

I am not going, in this first communication, to attribute any other motive than that of the purest zeal for mother church on the part of the conveners of the special meeting referred to; but a number of what commentators call "undersigned coincidences" might, it necessary, be adduced.

Apart from this, however, let me point out the discrepancy I referred to. In X's communication it is stated that the special meeting "decided" that the most fitting manner of perpetuating the glorious anniversary celebrated this year would be the establishment in the Republic of a large public school, etc. Now let us take the official report (see *Ark of Faith*, for February, page 37). No such "decision" as that set forth by your correspondent was arrived at at all. The following is the note in the *Ark of Faith*:

"Mr. Stevenson (the Vicar of Quilmes), proposed the nomination of a sub-committee under Rule 3, in view of the educational question, and that immediate application be made on behalf of the Council to the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts for a grant from the Marryatt Bequest towards Anglo-Argentine education. A special committee to

arrange for a public meeting on the subject was constituted as follows:—Rev. A. O. Tisdall, Rev. J. T. Stevenson, Messrs. Cheyver, Boutell, J. B. Wanklyn and J. C. Zimmermann."

It will be seen that such a very important decision as that set forth by X is not even referred to in the official report of the meeting; and it is clear that the attempt to connect the Queen's Jubilee celebration with the Marryatt Bequest is an afterthought.

Perhaps it is only just to myself to say that in writing these lines I am not unsupported. My action is the result of a conversation on the subject between several Head Masters, who wished the matter to be fully ventilated.

Let me now give not only the Revd. gentlemen who are in the van of this movement but the general public a few facts. Existing schools are referred to as having done good pioneer work. That was more or less what the Rev. Mr. Grubb said some two or three years ago, when he came out, but his remarks applied to the clergy. He said they had done something, but they had not preached the whole gospel. So now, X says "existing schools have done good pioneer work, but what is wanted is something like Harrow or Eton or Lancing." Let me affirm distinctly that, in all material subjects, the teaching here is as good as in England. I fancy you can hear some of your readers saying "Rubbish!" A Liverpool clergyman once preached from the text "Cling up a child in the way he should go." He prefaced his sermon by saying "I am not the G to tell you how to train up children" goinpeople who will tell you that are those who have none; and I have no doubt the loudest contradiction of my finished here are usually from those who have no children, and who have probably never seen the inside of a private school in this country.

It X means to imply that English Public Schools are manufacturing of geniuses, I reply that there are as a large percentage of duffers in those schools as in Argentine schools. If X means to imply that there are no clever boys here, who are receiving efficient instruction at the hands of efficient masters, then I reply that the statement is utterly incorrect. I could name boys here who (except in classics) would take very high positions indeed in any school in England. I may state two facts capable of the strictest proof, namely that boys who go from here to England take high places in English and mathematics. It is equally true that boys who come from England to be finished here are usually very deficient in both these main subjects.

Another fact for X. All the English boys' schools here, with one exception, have joined the movement for incorporation with the College of Preceptors, so that from henceforth the teaching here will be on the same lines as in the best schools in England and subject to identical tests. Now to come to the question, what is there taught in an English Public School which is not taught here? I asked a prominent English clergyman, a former examiner at Lancing, that question, and he could name no single subject which is not included in the curriculum of our schools in Argentina. Formerly, the cry used to be that, in the English public schools great attention was given to athletics, and the old tale of the Duke of Wellington was always told. Now, surely, we have enough athletics in the country. Many very able men say we have too much, but certainly we have enough.

The only quality in English Public School life which is wanting in an Argentine School is the "tone", and that will never be obtained in any school in this country. English public school tone is the product of English home life which is as different as possible from the Anglo-Porteno home life, and always will be. A boy from the camp will be thoroughly out of his element, in nine cases out of ten, when he goes to an English Public School, and if possible, still more so when he returns home.

X says "that there are now hundreds of fathers of families who long to give their children a good solid education such as given at Harrow etc, but so many obstacles stand in the way etc." Now there are not sixty boys and girls sent from the camp to all the English schools in the country put together, so that where X finds his hundreds of fathers would be interesting to ascertain.

Those few parents who do now send their children to England to be educated, very often send them to private schools and not to the public schools.

X should also remember that the majority of parents in the camp are Scotch, Irish, and either Presbyterians or Roman Catholics, who would not send their sons to a school under the control of the Bishop's Council, even if it did afford the "solid education" of Eton, Harrow or Lancing.

A serious effort is being made by the Head Masters of our existing schools to raise in every sense the tone and character, as well as the standard of teaching in our schools, and if bishop's councils, ministers, editors and men of standing would further their efforts and help them actively and boldly, there would be no room for the constantly reiterated and usually groundless complaints on the subject of education.

I have not mentioned one phase of this question, and that a most important one, namely that, in any school, which does its duty to parents and scholars, a large part of the teaching must be in Spanish; and for those boys, who intend to follow a professional career, the course of the National College in Spanish must be properly and effectively taught. Those who talk glibly about an English school "on the lines of Eton, etc." should ponder this phase of the question. They would have plenty to think about.

And now I think I have written sufficient criticisms of the scheme for one letter. If, however, the Bishop's Council should insist on their proposal, I should suggest that, to the Victoria School, they should add a "Victoria Co-operative Stores," so that not only the mind but the body might receive "sound" nourishment, always "under the control of the Bishop's Council."

Yours faithfully,
A. Stuart Pennington.

BRITISH HOSPITAL.

The Annual General Meeting of the Trustees and Subscribers to the above Institution will be held at Prince George's Hall, Calle Cuyo 1226, on Wednesday 25th

April at 4 p.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report and Accounts for the year 1896, and of filling the vacancies on the Committee.

SPECIAL MEETING.

On the conclusion of the annual meeting a Special General Meeting of subscribers will be held to consider alterations (as follows) in the regulations of management which are proposed by the Committee:—

Rule No 6 as now—5. The Committee of Management shall appoint a qualified Medical practitioner to act as Senior Medical Officer under the professional direction of the Consulting Medical Officers.

The Committee may at their discretion allow the Senior Medical Officer to reside outside and to engage in private practice so long as this does not interfere with his duties to the Hospital.

He shall be responsible to the Committee and shall receive such stipend as the Committee may deem fitting, and in the event of such Senior Medical Officer being allowed to be non-Resident, the Committee shall also appoint a Junior Medical Officer at a salary to be fixed by the Committee, who shall reside on the premises and shall not engage in private practice either in or out of the Hospital.

Alter to—The Committee of Management shall appoint a qualified medical practitioner to act as Senior Medical Officer, who shall be responsible for the treatment of all Patients. He shall receive such stipend as the Committee may deem fitting and shall not carry on any private practice within the precincts of the Hospital.

The Committee shall also appoint a Junior Medical Officer at such a salary as they may fix. He shall reside on the premises and shall not engage in private practice either in or out of the Hospital. The Committee shall also have the power to provide such further professional assistance as they may from time to time deem necessary for the efficient working of the Institution.

Rule No. 7 as now.

7. The Committee of Management shall appoint two or more British qualified medical practitioners in Buenos Aires as Honorary Consulting Physician and Surgeon, who shall be ex-officio members of the Committee of Management and shall possess a vote at General Meetings. They shall have powers of General Supervision over all cases in the Hospital and shall give their services gratuitously.

Alter to. The Committee of management may at any time elect one or more fully qualified Medical men to act as members of the Committee. The post shall terminate when a new Committee takes office.

The Committee may also appoint duly qualified medical men from time to time to act as consulting specialists in various diseases, and are authorized to pay such fees as may be agreed upon. All these appointments shall terminate when a new Committee takes office.

Rule No. 10 as now:

10. An order from the British Consul, the Chaplains serving on the Committee, or the Visiting Medical Officers, guaranteeing the poverty of the applicant, shall be sufficient to procure admission, subject to such arrangements as the Committee from time to time may decide on.

Alter to. An order given by any member of the Committee guaranteeing the poverty of an applicant shall be sufficient to procure admission subject to such arrangements as the Committee may from time to time decide on.

The Medical Officers are also authorized to admit poor patients under the same conditions.

MONTEVIDEO.

April, 5th.

Canards are flying so thick and fast that a stray shot brings down a lot of them. Here is my day's bag; you can eat the seasoned to taste, but I advise a liberal use of salt. Generals Santos Arribio and Muniz are said to be in a bad way. Another report states that both Saravia and Lamas are in the Department of Minas. There is no doubt that there has been a good deal of fighting somewhere in Cerro Largo or Minas, but it is impossible to obtain reliable details. Muniz is reported as being without horses and without ammunition. He sent urgent appeals for the latter to Government, which immediately forwarded it, but learning that Lamas was so close to Muniz, ordered the ammunition sent back for fear that the former should seize it.

Saravia has separated from Lamas and taking 300 men has gone to Brazil to incorporate groups of rebels who are awaiting him along the frontier. He is also charged to negotiate for the purchase of 100 rifles buried or hidden by Joac Francisco after the late revolution in Rio Grande. The revolutionary committee has authorized Saravia to pay \$25,000 cash for them. (This contradicts previous rumour of Saravia being with Lamas in Minas; The Revolutionary Committee seems to be receiving large contributions of funds. One heavy contributor is said to be the wealthy Pereyra, who went previously to Montevideo to see the revolutionary funds. He is the son of the Gabriel Pereyra who was President of the Republic at the time of the Quinteros massacre.

Another rumor said that Saravia was unwilling to join Lamas as he preferred fighting on his own account in the good old "gaucho" way, and had no liking for the new-tangled, scientific style of warfare as practiced by Lamas. The lines of the Oriental Telegraph and Co. to Treinta y Tres were cut, and Lamas swearing that they would kill the employees of the Company if they put up the wires again; all the same, Mr. Jones's plucky employees did put them up, though for eight days the line remained interrupted.

Stand-by O'Gorman.

R. PLATE UNITED TELEGRAPH CO.

The following particulars of the United River Plate Telephone Company will be found interesting. The business is an amalgamation, dating from 1886, of the United Telephone Company of the River Plate and the River Plate Telephone and Electric Light Company, to each of which companies 8,000 fully paid shares were issued. The authorised capital is £500,000 in shares of £5, and £200,000 has been issued and paid up in full. There is also five per cent debenture stock for £146,783, with interest payable in January and July, and the principal is redeemable at

par on 31st January, 1899, or earlier, at the Company's option, or six months' notice, at 110 per cent. For the sixteen months to 31st March, 1893, the dividend was 7 per cent; for the year 1893-94, 6; for 1894-95, 8; for the four years to 1898-9, nil; for 1894-5 8; and for 1895-6, 4. During the year ending 31st March last, 1896, the last period for which accounts have been issued, the gross receipts in sterling for the year were £43,744 10s., as against £36,673 for the year before, and the working expenses in the River Plate £24,967 2s. 2d., as against £17,555, leaving a profit, after the deduction of debenture interest and all London charges, of £14,504 18s. 7d., as against £9,901 15s., to which was added £4,519 12s. 4d. brought forward from the previous year, making a total of £19,124 5s. 11d. The directors transferred, out of this sum £3,000 to depreciation and renewal fund, and paid a dividend of 4 per cent upon the ordinary share capital, leaving a balance of £4,524 to be carried forward.

INSURANCE.

Mr. Hermann Meyer has insured for a period of five years in the Estrella Insurance Company all the furniture of the Jockey Club building in Calle Florida for \$100,000. The palatial building is insured in four companies for the round amount of \$400,000. At the rate the work is going on in this great club, the building will be in readiness in six months, when the Committee intend giving the grandest ball for the inauguration ever witnessed in Buenos Ayres.

STOCK IN ENTRE RIOS.

Few people have an idea of the rate at which the stock of cattle and sheep in Entre Rios is decreasing. The province is a very important centre of the grazing industry, and though the advance of agriculture would naturally tend towards the diminution of live stock, it is not this that can be called to account for the great decrease noted. The saladeros are the main offenders, as in order to fatten the cows more rapidly the calves are killed off, a very distinct burning of the candle at both ends. In the Census returns the number of cattle is set down at 2,784,810 head, which compared with last Census returns of 1888 shows a falling off of 1,338,258, the two returns comparing thus—

	Cattle	Sheep	Horses
Census 1896	2,784,810	6,210,185	514,597
Census 1888	4,120,068	4,901,123	719,510

The increase in sheep does not compensate for the startling decrease in cattle and horses, and is hardly normal, showing that the province must be pestered with plagues, the principal one being the fluke, which causes very severe mortality. We should add that Entre Rios has its own statistical department, the returns of which do not tally with the 1896 Census, which do not tally with the 1896 Census, showing still less favourably. If this goes on, Entre Rios will soon lose its pride of place in the grazing line, the soundest industry in the country.

THE LOCUST INVESTIGATION.

Of all the newspapers of Buenos Ayres none has taken so to heart the locust question as *El Tiempo*; none has been so pitiless in its satire on the measures proposed to repel the periodical invasions. It often falls foul of the Merchants' Locust Investigation Committee, utterly forgetful of the stern fact that the Committee in question have been appointed to carry out only certain resolutions passed by the merchants. The Committee cannot depart from those resolutions, the principal one of which is the choosing of some practical entomologist to report on the movement of the locusts in this country and to suggest the most practical means of repelling or getting rid of them. Pending the engagement and arrival on these shores of such a specialist in locust destruction, the Committee are in a most praiseworthy manner getting together all possible information from all parts of the Republic; this mass of information is pouring in daily and is being carefully classified and separated for the benefit of the entomologist when he arrives. We fail to see what further action can be expected from the Merchants' Committee. There can be no question as to the line of policy fixed by the preliminary resolutions of the merchants. Now, our colleagues, especially *El Tiempo*, are at liberty to join issue with those resolutions, pick them to pieces, but we fail to see the logic in endeavouring to induce the Committee specially named by the merchants to deviate from the resolutions that they adopted.

So far the Committee of Merchants is concerned, the time for discussing the plausibility or the absurdity of engaging the services of a foreign specialist is past; that question should have been decided when the resolutions of the merchants were under discussion. As matters stand, the Merchants' Locust Investigation Committee must stand by the resolutions of the first meeting and they cannot deviate one line from the line of conduct fixed for them. Meantime, the locust discussion, so well kept up by *El Tiempo*, is both interesting and instructive, and, as "du choc des idées jaillit la lumière," the discussion should not be allowed to drop. Our colleague, who handles the subject from a scientific and practical stand-point, is of opinion that locusts are now acclimatized all over our agricultural zone and adduces the following arguments:—

1st.—The abundance of food during Summer and protection through forests from cold in winter.
2nd.—The undoubted permanence and reproduction of locusts in the centre of the republic since 1892.
3rd.—The unusual length of summer in that zone for the last ten years.
4th.—The comparative impunity with which locusts have carried out their periodical invasions.
Our colleague cites a case of a "manga" of locusts (hoppers) near the Sierras of Cordoba. The "manga" were devouring a very cold and cloudy day all the region round a thick "algarrobo" at two o'clock all the hoppers vanished into the thick bush. A "paisano" informed our

SUNDAY'S FIRE.

ENORMOUS LOSSES.

April 6th

The fire which destroyed the Lithograph Offices of Messrs Gunche, Wiebeck and Turtl in Calle San José No. 1788 has occasioned the owners enormous losses estimated at \$300,000. The valuable machinery bought in Europe and which cost a very large sum of money was melted by the flames. The establishment was insured for \$75,000 gold and \$40,000 paper in the Buenos Aires, Rosario and Union Commercial Insurance Companies; Messrs. Gunche, Wiebeck and Turtl's business was mounted on a very large scale no fewer than 200 men being employed in the many departments of the Lithograph Establishment, while 18 distinct classes of machinery were in constant use. The origin of the fire appears due to the carelessness of the night watchman, who used to make his round of the vast building with an ordinary lantern. He is supposed to have dropped a lighted match on to a bundle of rags used for cleaning the machinery, and this set fire to the building a great part of which was made of wood. The building cost \$12,000 gold and the plot of ground on which it stood was leased for a term of 10 years, Colonel Calaza and his brave "bombos" behaved admirably and succeeded in keeping the flames well away from the adjoining buildings. Had these taken fire, the whole square might have been destroyed.

PROGRESS OF BAHIA BLANCA.

Mr. Graham, manager of Mr. Lopez Lecube's large estancia San Ramon, near Bahia Blanca, has arrived up from the South. He states that both farmers and colonists in that southern zone have had a splendid year, and the winter is dawning under most favorable conditions. Good as last season was, the present one will be better. Bahia Blanca, he says, shows daily evidence of progress, the extension works of the Southern Railway and B. Blanca North Western Railway acting as a great spur to business. The Military Port, the works of which have begun will give still greater impetus to the progressive town. The extension to Toay will be completed in a very short time, and everything appears to favor that territory. The locusts put in an appearance some time ago, but too late to do any damage to colonies. Our English friends in Bahia Blanca enter an earnest prayer to the Great Southern Railway Company on a plea of humanity that the Restaurant Car which is always dropped at Alfalfa should be pushed ahead to Bahia Blanca; they argue that it is in the very interests of the company to make this concession to a thirsty public.

BRITISH CHARITIES.

The whole English-speaking community has been fairly abuzzed at the astounding revelations in the Report just issued, of the Victoria Convalescent Home, to the effect that out of the tens of thousands of English subjects in this country there are only FIFTY-THREE yearly subscribers to this noble institution!! It really seems incredible, yet it is a hard fact, a very hard one; indeed. But for the Ball got up last season for the Home, it would now be almost bankrupt, as its maintenance last year cost \$10,900, while its income from all sources was only \$6,000! The "light fantastic toe" in Prince George's Hall saved the situation. Yet here we are prating and writing about Sailors' Homes, Public Schools, etc., to commemorate the "Longest Teign," and one of our foremost charitable institutions has only FIFTY-THREE annual subscribers. Let the Committee put up over the ball-door of the Home the number 53 in the blackest of black figures, our rich and influential countrymen have multiplied it by ten, when the black figures can be changed to some more creditable colour. "Hemos dicho!"

THE LA PLATA DEBT.

It is grateful news for the market that the arrangements for redemption of the Foreign Debt of the Province of Buenos Aires are now almost completed, barely requiring the exequatur of Congress with the national guarantee to be a "fait accompli." The basis of the arrangement is an issue of 35,000,000 gold bonds bearing 4% interest, and with amortization from year 1901, but a "sine qua non" condition imposed by the creditors is that the Nation underwrites the business. After all, though it does seem a departure from financial principles, that the Nation should gratuitously have to shoulder the load, there is this to be said in its favor, that the Province is well able to pay its way and certainly deserves some such tribute of consideration for past favours. Furthermore the stain of dishonor hanging over the Province smudges the National credit. It should not be so, but it is, and this moral backing up is also quite a different thing from asking the Nation to turn out its sorely threadbare pockets for the benefit of reckless investors. For many reasons it is advisable that the business should be arranged, and as the guarantee is only just it does not, or should not, encounter serious opposition.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

Now that the Argentine National Telegraphs have repaired their lines to the frontiers of Brazil, via Libres, and seeing that there are other routes to that Republic from Buenos Aires, why should there exist an interdict against telegrams arriving from the North of Lima to Brazil via B. Aires? Is it because the Western and Brazilian Telegraph Co., in order to protect themselves, impose a special tariff from Montevideo over their special route? If so, then the interdict decidedly favours that Company, as it forces all the traffic from Europe and United States over the Cables, via Pernambuco. What effect has the closure of the Offices of the River Plate Telegraph Co. upon the question? None whatever that we can discover.

The project referring to the contract drawn up by Mr. Charles H. Krabbe and the President of the National Railway Board with regard to the Transandine Line will be submitted to the Minister of the Interior to-day. The bases of the contract are—Government to hand the Railway \$276,000 in public amortization, which the company will receive at market value, and which may be exchanged for Bonds of the Internal Debt, so long as the interest is 4%. This operation will completely cancel any accounts pending for guarantee in arrears. The Nat. Government and Railway Company will refrain from pressing any claim which the suspension of the works might give rise to. The Company is, moreover, free from any obligation, which the already mentioned guarantee may give rise to. The Company, moreover, binds itself to finish the line as far as the Chilean boundary within three years. The contract, moreover, contains several clauses referring to the tariffs, etc. The line, which to-day reaches Punta de Vacas, will shortly go as far as Cuevas. The distance from Cuevas to the summit of the Andes is but a step.

There are well founded rumours that the Minister of the Interior proposes a scheme for uniting all the narrow gauge railways in the country. The idea is an excellent one, and the realization of the project although involving an immense amount of labour would, prove of inestimable value not only to agriculturists, etc., but to the whole commercial community of this modern city. The project provides for the junction of the National lines with the railway to Bolivia, and the construction of a new branch line, one other convenient spot to Lima, thus opening up the Peruvian market to Argentine trade and vice-versa. Peru and Bolivia would through this have a port on the Atlantic, and all their products could be sent to this city by rail and shipped direct to Europe.

The Minister of the Interior proposes laying the matter before Congress and obtaining the necessary authorization to put the vast scheme into practice.

A further term of one year has been accorded to Mr. Hope Gibson for the presentation of the definite plans of the railways for which he is concessionaire and which are: Bahia San Clemente in Ajó to the Sevigné station on the Southern line with a branch from the extreme east of the "chaquas" of Ajó to Montes Grandes whence the branch branches into set of rails running to Maipú and the other to Arbolito, both stations on the Southern line.

The half yearly report of the B. Ayres Western Railway Ltd. to December 31st has been received by the mail, so that it has come out in fact with Mr. Faithful, the London Secretary of the Company. It shows the gross receipts to have been £354,524 and the working expenses £161,473, leaving a net balance of £193,051 for working profit; to this is added £280,452 for rent from other companies, previous balance etc., and £148,771 deducted for service on loans and charges for debentures, leaving a disposable balance of £321,771. The increase in the gross receipts of the line for the half-year is £9,484, 16s. 11d., equal to 2.75 per cent., and the decrease in the net profit is £5,147, 5s. 7d., or 3.59 per cent. The number of miles open for traffic is 495, being an increase of 18 miles over the corresponding period of the previous year. The working expenses amount to 45.55 per cent., as compared with 42.56 per cent. in 1895. The receipts from passenger traffic show an increase of 17.65 per cent.; from luggage and parcels, an increase of 21.36 per cent.; and from goods traffic a decrease of 2.24 per cent. The receipts per train mile have been 9s. 7.4 d., as against 9s. 5.4 d. in 1895, while the cost of working has been 4s. 4.4 d., as against 4s. 0.4 d. As regards the traffic the report gives the total number of passengers carried at 1,645,470 as against 1,282,070 in the same period of 1895, or an increase of 363,400, equal to 28.35 per cent., whilst 635,114 tons of goods and 287,706 animals were carried during the half-year with receipts £249,724. 19s. 4d., against 665,796 tons, and 370,101 animals with receipts £255,542. 6s. 4d., the decrease having been £5,817, 9s. 11d., equal to 2.25 per cent. The principal items of the "Goods Traffic" show as follows:—

	Half year ended Dec. 31st.	1896	1895
		Tons	Tons
Wool.....		21,467	21,681
Maize.....		310,090	304,862
Wheat.....		39,613	36,865

We have to hold over further data of this very interesting report for our next issue, but meantime, in spite of the adverse conditions, it is very reassuring to see the company steaming ahead, a speaking, biting satire on the old Western in Government hands. This shows good sound management, and we congratulate Mr. Roberts on being able to present his board with such favourable figures. We may add that the Board have decided to pay an interim dividend of 6s. per share, equal to a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum.

The way in which passengers leaving by the old Central Station site for the North and South are huddled between "bretes"—not even fit for cattle and sheep—and then exposed to wind and weather on the platforms running to the right and left, is nothing short of an outrage on the travelling public, and in any other part of the world but Buenos Ayres the people would have been given expression to their indignation. The Lord Mayor of the

city and the Minister of the Interior should be made to stand daily in the pens in sun, hail, wind, and water, that they may get some personal experience of the sufferings that they inflict upon the public.

Government has approved the agreement made by the Chubut Government with Engineer Edward J. Williams to throw a bridge over the Rio Chubut at Gaiman.

The Nile arrived in La Plata on Thursday and the waggons with the passengers' luggage were handed by the Ensenada Railway to the Puerto Madero authorities at 5.30 p.m. the same day. At mid-day on Friday the old lines had been moved the few yards to the Custom House shed. This because there is a rotten bridge at the Port which prevents the Ensenada engine from doing the passengers the favor of moving the waggons. What an outlook for the public when the rails are raised on 1st June and the through traffic of goods will be worked by public authorities.

The Belgrano Tramway will henceforward be the most popular in town, as it is the first of the old lines to abandon horse traction and take to electricity, and although the Overhead Trolley system which it intends to adopt is dangerous, it is always a great step in advance to get rid of the horses and their terrible "cocheros." Now let someone else make a trial of compressed air, which has given such excellent results in the United States, and which is free from even a semblance of danger.

Continuing our extract from the Western Railway half yearly report, we find that under the head of working expenses it says that this item has been considerably increased by the improvement in the value of the paper currency, the average premium on gold for the half-year having been 180.13 per cent against 238.07 per cent. Notwithstanding this improvement the cost of living has remained the same, and no reduction could therefore be made in the salaries and wages, which are paid in paper, and in addition we were obliged to increase the rates of pay to the drivers and firemen, and reduce the hours of labour, which naturally meant employing more men. The Report goes on to detail the new works carried through renewing 16 miles of double line in La Plata Port, new sidings at stations, junction to connect up Ensenada line with Central Produce Market, new stores Deposit at Boedo, new carriage shed at Gaiman, etc. In the Extension line the Villegas branch was completed and opened on 1st Nov., whilst the Toay extension works have been commenced, and are being pushed on rapidly with every prospect of the rails reaching Toay early in July. The report winds up with the following interesting general remarks:—

The results for the past half-year have not come up to my expectations, and this is largely due to the low prices obtained for maize, which obliged us to make a reduction in the rates to enable the crop to be moved off for export. Since then prices have recovered, and from the 1st of January the old rates are being charged. The new crop was all that could be desired a few weeks ago, but unfortunately the young locusts (hoppers) have since appeared in every part and in such numbers that it has not been possible to destroy them, notwithstanding the efforts which have been and are being made. The damage which has been done to the crop is enormous, but it is still estimated that the half of the crop in our districts may be saved. The want of rain is also being felt, and this may affect the yield. The wheat crop has also been a failure to a certain extent, as the yield has fallen far short of what was anticipated, though still considerably in excess of that of last year, but fortunately for the farmers, the rise in price will compensate them for this and stimulate them to continue. The result is that much new land, especially on the branch line to Villegas, will be broken up shortly for wheat, and the low prices realized for maize will also undoubtedly lead to a much larger area of land being put under wheat.

The Pacific Railway Co. has issued a new route card which sets out the whole track and all the lines in combination, showing also the new extension from Rufino to Italo and Esperanza. Another excellent departure is the opening of a central dispatch office for the line at Cuyo 317, where passengers can book berths, get their tickets, leave their luggage and spare themselves an infinity of bother. The Southern, Rosario and Central Argentine have all Central offices in full swing and doing excellent service, so that it was only in course that an important concern like the Pacific should line up. We congratulate Mr. Lowe, the traffic manager, on the new departure.

The Minister of the Interior yesterday approved in general the bases of the agreement made with reference to the settlement of the Transandine Railway Guarantee Question. H. E. promised that the final arrangement will be made after Holy Week. We published the particulars of this question in our issue of Wednesday last, the 7th inst.

The Government must give way in its absurd refusal to allow the erection of a temporary station on the site of the burned down old Central. The public outcry is tremendous, and all our colleagues now re-echo it. During the recent rain storm hundreds of unfortunate passengers were drenched to the marrow; and not a few of them are in bed with dangerous colds. The numerous foreign visitors now in our midst cannot, positively, believe either their ears or their eyes when the true inwardness of this disgraceful affair is explained to them. The call-like clamor of the public under the circumstances, astonishes them beyond measure.

What is really a crying, solid abuse is the primitive way passengers luggage from the packets is treated. Instead of it being passed by the Customs officials on board or where it is landed, as would seem to be a civilized way of doing the thing, it is shipped clean away out of ken to the Darsena or some other such place as the owner can only get to with difficulty, and then revised when the officials think well. It is surely time that this outrageous system or rather lack of system were abandoned, and improved means arranged. It cannot be so very difficult and we call the Finance Minister's attention to the point in the assurance that it will be looked into and the corrective applied.

PROVINCES.

There is a sad tale of woe from that benighted province Santiago del Estero. For sixteen months past the State school teachers have not been paid a cent of salary and have been living on credit, air and music, a mixed diet that has had such a very bad effect on their health that they are all in bed and the schools are closed. What has become of the Government paid by the National Government to keep up the schools? Echo answers, "what?"

Letters from Rio Quinto, South of Cordoba, report everything going on very satisfactorily there, the increase having been splendid in the flocks—75%, and the only drop of bitterness in the estancia's cup the bedrock prices of the wool, as plagues of any kind are unknown there. Mr. Ernest Schröder, whom we welcomed a few days ago, has brought down samples of wool from his father's estancia which comprise the galvanized wire of the pure criollo and the silky fibre of the merino. As we have not passed the chair yet in this line, we recommend the samples to the attention of our friend Don Carlos Lix Klett, the authority of the market. The letters speak of 4 days rain there.

Advices from the North Chaco report the weather distressingly hot and damp, which is very good for the cane plantations and gives promise of a splendid crop. At Las Palmas, we hear, the great sugar factory is being extended, and new machines are being put up for a big crop this season. The rolling-stock of the narrow gauge railway is also being much increased.

Mr. Renato Altieri, who has arrived in this city after a general tour through the Province of Santa Fé, reports the granary of the Republic in a deplorable condition. The locusts have left the once splendid crop fields as bare as a billiard ball, thereby ruining all the colonists. Hundreds of families are absolutely starving, and almshouses and general dealers refuse to give them a red cent of credit, knowing very well that they will never be paid. One respectable Italian farmer had to sell a chacra in order to keep the wolf from the door! Business in general has also suffered very heavily, and many merchants have been compelled to close their doors, as the once prosperous colonists are now, but bad debtors. An idea of the state of affairs which prevails in this province may be fully gauged by the fact that a collector belonging to a well known firm here in Buenos Aires set out to collect \$13,500, but only returned with \$160!! Comment is needless.

Advices from the Rio Negro state that the heavy rains that began in the first days of March continue: in fact March has been the rainiest month on record. The result is that the camps are very green and grasses high; the season so far has been most favorable although the green pasturage has put animals back a little.

FINANCIAL.

The crippled state of the market in general is rather a trying question for loose capital seeking investment in this line, as what with all the good stocks, dividend paying, at a premium it is difficult to find an opening offering a good return without extreme risk. Take Santa Fé Consols for instance, a 6% stock, with its coupons regularly met; quoted at 88 it cannot be considered absolutely sound, whilst though Catalinas offer a big margin they have not paid a dividend for years nor are likely to do so till some working arrangement is arrived at; again the Constructors look promising enough, but who can say how they will pan out. Thus as a really safe investment for money there are only the National Cédulas, some banking stocks, and the two Ports, San Nicolas and B. Ayres, open. The Cédulas offer a margin it is true, but not a big, a speculative one, so to speak, whilst the banks are in the same condition. Now the ports are different. The coupons in both instances are practically at least free from all incumbrance, and as they hold valuable properties, the shares must improve in value. Perhaps not just yet, but the moment the stock market begins to move the ports will move too. Of the two stocks the one looking fairest just at present is the one nearest home. A short time ago we showed that this concern, the B. Ayres Port Land Company, was now on a very favorable footing, having cleared off all debts, straightened itself up and knocked out the market for a little while. The business was that each share represented a metre of land. This put heart into the stock, which spurred; but we note that of late the quotations have been weakish, shewing either that some people are unaware of what is going on in the stock or are much pushed for money, realizing their holding just when the improvement should take boldest shape. According to what is said in the market the only way to liquidating its lands on most favorable terms. It sold to the Electric Light Company at over \$40 the metre, is in treaty for another block in the Darsena at same price, and we hear sells 2 squares at the Darsena at \$60. With the shares at 25 1/2 each and the lands selling at \$40 to 60 the metre, it is quite clear that the quotation is bound to advance, considering that each share is represented by a square metre. The sales are kept in reserve, but the details leak out from time to time notwithstanding.

All the Secretaries of State are busy preparing their figures for the Message, and it is said that Minister Escalante's part will astonish the whole market, such are the surprising figures he will be able to show. This speaks volumes for the country, so shaken by the loss of the crops and commercial depression.

The Castells creditors have taken time by the forelock and named Messrs. Varela and Del Valle, well known brokers, to sell by auction the property handed over by Don Francisco Uribe in payment of the Bolsa claims. The site, as will be remembered, measures 12,000 square yards more or less, valued at \$50,000, with bricks and mortar therein, estimated to be worth another \$100,000. The auction will be taken about the beginning of May.

Circulars were handed round to-day announcing definite formation of the Electric Light and Traction Company of the River Plate Co., of which we gave full parti-

culars a few days ago. Mr. W.R. Cassels is managing Director, Mr. F. Cassels B. Aires Manager, Mr. A. Hanwin, Manager at Rosario, Mr. G.G. Clark at La Plata, and Mr. Lindop at Tucuman. The board is composed of Mr. J. M. Duncan, President, and Messrs T. Farrell, E. Halsey, and F. Ince.

BANKING ITEMS.

It is something really astonishing the growth of the banking business in this market. We had occasion to visit the Spanish Bank, which is one of the junior private banks of Buenos Aires, and to our surprise found the place so crowded that it was with difficulty we got through to the manager's office. Here we saw the place so thronged with the first brokers of the Bolsa, that to take our turn meant to pass the whole afternoon in the bank. The counters have been extended, the right through the antechamber since we last visited Mr. Coelho, some two years ago, and in this room they despatch small bills on Europe. One would suppose from the crowd that the Spanish Bank was the only one in this city drawing small bills on Europe. We passed from the Spanish Bank to the London and River Plate Bank to deposit some money, but here, as we found the crowd even still greater, and hopeless the attempt to make the deposit before the doors of the Bank closed. Immense as are the premises of the London and River Plate Bank, there was hardly standing room in any portion of the hall. As regards the Spanish Bank, they are already knocking down the shops, etc., in the old Hotel de la Paix, and running up the new banking offices, hall, etc., where in days long over Pauline danced and D. Hoté sang. But the era of beefsteaks and champagne, chops and tomato sauce is passed for that historic old pile, which will soon be the grand hall of the Spanish Bank.

The Banco Hipotecario Nacional paid in the first two days of April on account of the March coupon \$1,229,413 m/l and \$187,327 gold. It is said that the Board of the bank is not at all satisfied with the applications sent in for the new G. series, as most of the applicants are far from being on level terms with their accounts in the bank, and there is actually one application for a million cédulas on lands which had been thrown out of Cultivation.

The Liquidating Committee of the Banco Italo-Oriental, which went into voluntary liquidation during the crisis of 1891, announces this terminated and calls upon shareholders to receive a first and only dividend of \$20.04 per cent. We may presume from this that all creditors of the Bank have been fully satisfied.

MILITARY.

There was a rumour yesterday that the mobilized National Guards will be kept in their encampment for four months instead of two. This is the purest bosh; as, when the sixty days ordered by Congress expire, they can throw down their arms and return home without incurring the slightest legal penalty.

That unfortunate water at Denney's encampment is still a nightmare for one of our leading colleagues. The latest story in connection with it is that water was taken from Buenos Aires on Sunday last for the President's table when he went to review the N.G.'s!! "Pas possible!"

There is great movement in naval circles just now. Captain Athlo Barilar has been named Captain of the Garibaldi, which will be the flagship of the Second Division, of 4 ships. He will leave for Port Belgrano this week with the "9 de Julio," "25 de Mayo" and "Patria." Captain Domeg García, when he hands over the Garibaldi, will leave for England with Captain Berthelmer, and Lieutenant Irizar, to superintend the building of the training ship Sarmiento, which Laird has in hands. The 1st Division under Captain in Corea is reduced to the cruiser Buenos Aires and torpedo-boat Espora, as the ironclad Independencia is at Montevideo, and her sister ship Libertad is engaged in the rather ignoble duty, for a battleship, of watching the sanitary service in the port. There will be an express pow-wow train to Bahia Blanca after Easter for the presentation of the new flags to the Garibaldi and Nueve de Julio.

The Minister of War has sent an official note of thanks to the Captain of the U.S.S. Yantic for the great services he, his officers and crew rendered in the salvage of the Destroyer Santa Fé.

The idea of moving the Tigre Naval Works and yards to the Madero Port is a grave mistake. In the first place the Docks are overcrowded, and in the second would be a dangerous thing to have men-of-war, generally loaded with explosives, in the midst of innumerable mercantile vessels and close to a thickly populated part of the city. People and steamers would be blown over the moon some fine day.

How wise Argentina's patriotic pride has proved in not deserting the important foreign officers to reorganize her army and navy is shewn by the present flare-up in Chile, where the Government has now sided with the Teutonic General Körner against the most distinguished officers in the Chilean army—Canto, Gorostiaga and others—and has absolutely transferred these officers to the Reserve List to give Körner supreme control. It is a tremendous mistake, and will utterly demoralize the Chilean army. In case of a war, how could the Chilean troops be expected to follow a foreign General with the same enthusiasm as one of their own countrymen? The end of it all will be that Körner and his countrymen in the Chilean army will have "to git," as our Yankee cousins say.

Minister Villanueva yesterday telegraphed to the Governor of Yarrow full particulars respecting the damage suffered by the Santa Fé and asking for advice regarding what should be done.

We feel much pleasure in welcoming back our gallant, talented and distinguished friend General Mansilla, who arrived on Thursday in the R.M.S. Nile. The "beau sabreur" has been two years in Europe

mostly spent in Paris amongst the leading military and literary lights of the day. The gallant General returns to his native land in the best of health.

The storm on Thursday night bowled over the prow of the Destroyer Santa Fé in the Riachuelo ship-yard. The torpedo tube was in it, intact; but it is feared it is now injured. Experts now say that it is useless to attempt to repair the Destroyer; it would cost as much as a new one, but she would never be equal to her former self.

The military scandal in Chile is still in full blast General Canto has retorted on General Körner with that popular South American institution, a "manifesto," in which he makes the most tremendous revelations about the Chilean army, which appears to have gone to the three D's, completely. After two years of Teutonic training, and all that has been said about the superior organization of our friendly neighbours' army, General Canto's manifestation raises a broad grin. Yet, "quien sabe" if the whole thing may not be a preconcerted dodge to throw Argentina off her guard? The Greeks of South America are awfully deep.

The Chilean squadron of new ships under Admiral Gobi is on its way from England and will be at Rio next week. There was the intention of giving the Admiral a grand reception, but the Government refused to contribute a cent without the permission of Congress, which won't meet till next month, so the Fiesta Reception Committee has broken up, and the whole racket will be confined to a Press Commission going on board to salute the Admiral and his officers. Somehow, there seems to be no love for Chile to spare on the East Coast just at present.

We beg to congratulate Capitan de Fragata Esteban de Loqui on his appointment to second command of the ironclad Garibaldi; this is tantamount to Commander of the noble ship as her nominal commander is Chief of the Squadron. Capitan de Fragata Loqui has a good record behind him as Captain of the Villario and of La Patria, and here we beg to contradict the statement that the latter ship ran down one of Lussich's tenders at Colonia. The gallant Commander was one of the more active auxiliaries in getting off the unfortunate Santa Fé from the Colonia shoals.

COURTS.

The whole population ought to thank Judge Pizarro for his note to the Cámara Civil suggesting that a stop be put to the publicity given to cases of divorce, immorality and others, in the disgusting details of which some of our colleagues seem to revel, and the perusal of which has a most pernicious effect on public morals. Dr. Pizarro shows in a very able way that there would be no violation whatever of public rights by holding such cases with absolutely closed doors. We are with the learned Judge in this matter.

The Commercial Judge Dr. Amuchastegui, has ordered the registration of the statutes of the joint stock Company "Cha-teau Parry."

Who does not remember, Costa Rica and Company back in the eighties, the biggest ship-chandlers in B. Ayres, doing a roaring business and better known to the legion of ship-captains frequenting our port than either the President of the Republic or the heroes of the Independence. But the name was changed to Romeu and Co., and with the change the fortunes of the house began to fade, going into a steady decline which has ended in the bankruptcy court. The seals were put on the doors a couple of days ago, and Mr. D. García Fernandez named receiver. "Sic transit."

A private meeting of the creditors of E. Spineto and Sons was held at the office of Messrs Watrine, Bossut and Co., at which most of the creditors of the firm were represented. After a statement of affairs had been submitted to the meeting and considerable discussion had taken place thereon, a proposal was made that a special committee of five of the principal creditors should be appointed to liquidate the estate for the benefit of the creditors. The majority present were in favour of the proposition, but as others had to consult their principals, nothing definite was decided. It is believed, however, that the proposed arrangement will be accepted.

The market will be interested in learning that the famous lawsuit Koch Bros. v. Enthoven has come to a close, the sentence expected in a few days. There are some very ticklish points settled by the ruling which will, therefore, much interest the market. Another item from the law courts is the sentence of Dr. Celoni, ordering the president of the Grain Elevators and Deposits Co., Mr. R. Inglis Runciman, to abstain from all division or distribution of the lands or funds of the Company until such time as the suit brought by Drs. Gmo Torres, Fr. Oliver, M. Castellanos, E. Buti and V. Piñero for smashing the proceedings of the shareholders' meetings has been decided. Still another item is that Messrs J. Orazza and Co., wine merchants, have applied for a moratorium shewing \$78,237 assets, and \$62,101 liabilities.

What is Buenos Aires coming to? From Thursday morning till the law courts closed yesterday, no fewer than six fresh divorce cases were laid before the Judges! There is a veritable epidemic of divorce raging at present. The Law Courts have closed for Holy Week, and will not be opened again till Monday 19th. It strikes us that Argentine Judges are prodigiously fond of holidays, and love "ferias" as schoolboys do.

The Civil Court of Appeal issued yesterday its decision on the proposal to suppress the publication in the papers of all cases before the courts that can affect public morality. The voting was three to two, Judges Solar, Arrotea and Gimenez voting for the suppression, and their learned brothers Diaz and Gelly against. Thus, for the future the public will not be shocked and demoralized by the publication of these unhappy cases.

MARKETS.

The produce markets are as stagnant as the lazy Scheldt. It could hardly be otherwise with the arrivals of cereals at almost a minimum and wool a drug. There is next to nothing doing. The linseed is finished, wheat dribbling in and maize prices tumbling, \$3.25 being the offer to-day for old and \$3.60 for new; it is said that the new maize is very good indeed and only requires a good frost for seasoning to make it tip-top. Business in Saladero produce is also at a standstill, not a hide sold for 3 or 4 days. All this seems naturally to suggest the query—where does the cash gold come from?

In a group on Change to-day the vexed question of the wool clip, whether it will be short or over last year's, was discussed at length, and strange to say the general impression is that it will be short. A leading consignee arguing that though the number of sheep shorn has been about the same, the wool has been uniformly much lighter, so that in kilos, if there is not actually a shortage, there will be no increase. The market is certainly not so full as it was, and the arrivals are falling off, which would seem to bear out this view, but it must be borne in mind that the wretched, flat state of the market is not an incentive to holders to be in a feverish hurry about forwarding. The arrivals to-day were very meagre and the sales not over 400,000 kilos. Some people think, however, we shall have wool selling right through the year, and they are people in the business.

The news from the produce markets is not consolatory, as prices are still as flat as a pancake, the only demand being for cross Lincoln classes which are still looked for by buyers for the States. Dry hides are weak, sheepskins weak and cereals only so so, wheat being a trifle firmer owing to very meagre arrivals. The stock of wool in the Central Market is now down to 10,000,000 kilos.

According to Messrs. Standt and Co's. circular the following are the wool shipments from this country, Oct. 1st to March 31st inclusive:—Lampart and Holt Line 108,451 bales, A. M. Delino y Hermano 43,968, William Samson and Co. 40,10, Chargeurs Reunis 86,502, Norddeutscher Lloyd 25,670, Williams and Co. 15,326, Hansa-Line 11,528, Houder Bros. and Co. 10,934, Chas. H. Reynolds 7,146, Holland Line 6,882, P. Christophersen 6,578, Prince Line 5,478, Messageries Maritimes 5,320, G. Lavarello (Navegazione Generale Italiana) 4,724, Hoston Line 3,754, G. Martinez & Co. 2,371, Maunus and Doderer 2,282, Royal Mail Steamship Company 1,695, Kosmos Line at Bahia Blanca 1,281, Directe Verschiffungen at Rosario 5,816, Diverse 3,000. Total shipments 376,000 bales. Of the above 36,301 bales were forwarded to the United States.

OBITUARY.

The death of Don Pedro Benoit, the well known architect and engineer, has caused a wide-spread feeling of regret, as he had legions of friends to whom he was endeared by his high personal qualities and amiable character. He died on Sunday night at Mar del Plata. He was an architect of great talent, and planned many of the fine public buildings in La Plata.

The death of the Rev. Father Requena, of the Society of Jesus, Rector of the Conciliar Seminary, has caused sincere grief in society and ecclesiastical circles. Even in his gifted Order he was a shining light in science and literature, and as a pulpit orator he had no superior. Catholic society in this city will long mourn his early death. He was only 52 years of age.

INTERNAL TAXES.

The Internal Taxes collected in March were:—			
	Litres	Dollars	
Alcohol.....	4,101,258 1/2	1,233,640.95	
Beer.....	2,048,327 1/2	70,928.89	
Wine.....	12,764,738	12,764.73	
Sugar.....	3,666,289	38,157.89	
Matches.....		128,970.00	
Cards.....		318,882.46	
Tobacco.....		8,799.00	
Insurance.....		25,881.26	
Interest.....		3,121.71	
Fines.....		1,000.00	
		1,836,540.99	

PERSONAL.

The hegira per the Royal Mail packet Nile, sailing on the 17th inst., will leave its mark on the English community, which is severely thinned. Hosts of friends are booked to leave, and we may say that she will leave the fullest passenger ship that has ever left the Plate; the extra push being doubtless due to special conditions of voyage, and the general rush to get in time for the Great Jubilee celebration. Amongst the passengers booked (full list in another column) we note Mr. R.A. Norton and family, Mr. Charles Krabbe and family, Mr. Frigate, the electrical engineer and concessionaire, Mr. & Mrs C. Walker of Port Works, Mr. T.C. Dixon of the R. Plate Bank, Mr. Rennie, well known importer, Mr. Turnbull of the Trust Loan Co., Mr. Braga, Brazilian Consul, Mr. and Mrs. Samson of Sampson and Co., Mr. Juan Cruz Varela, Mr. C. Hope, Mr. W. R. Grant, well known estanciaero, Mr. Barnett, leading Rosario merchant, Mr. and Mrs. Machain, the Bunge and Guerrero families, Don Diego Gibson and family, Don José Drysdale and family, Capt. Knight, and many others. It will not be a "lonely" trip anyway.

There is unpleasant news from Entre Rios about the distribution of seed wheat to the distressed farmers. In all parts they complain of the bad quality of the wheat purchased by the Commissioners. In Villa Urquiza district it is so bad that the farmers prefer to leave their land fallow rather than sow it. This is a nice state of bucolic affairs in the Argentine Mesopotamia.

OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS

"Noblesse oblige." In return for the junketing and banquetting and travelling we gave the North American Commissioners here last year, the latter are now preparing to return the compliment, the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, as has already been fully announced, having sketched out a touring visit for South American delegates, which should prove a great success. The visitors will be shown around in a special Pullman train, which in itself will be a triumph of all that is possible in the way of comfort in the travelling line; they will be received by the President and Cabinet, spending two days in Washington, be entertained in New York, taken on to Boston in the magnificent Fall river steamers, and then on to Providence, Worcester, Springfield and New Haven, which will give the visitors an insight into the manufacturing interests of New England. At Pittsburgh they will see the great iron glass, and other factories, then visiting Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth. From the latter point they will do the great lakes and Niagara, and from Albany descend the Hudson and back to New York, where they will arrive about July 10th. We have to congratulate our old friend Don Jacobo Peuser on being appointed Argentine Delegate for the Union Industrial, and the choice could not have fallen on a more representative business man, of broad, clear views, great perception, matured experience and ample fortune. He has also been named a member of the Foreign Advisory Board of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, having already received his diploma, a work of art signed by the President, Dr. Pepper and the Secretary Mr. Wilson.

ARTESIAN WELLS.

Artesian wells seem to have decidedly caught on in Montevideo if we may judge from the following paragraph translated from our colleague the *Siglo*, which is publishing a series of articles on national industries, its usual bellicose tendencies to write violent political articles being restrained by Borda's press-gallop. In describing Gnanelli's mill, the largest at the Mount it says: "Next to the boilers and in the workshop department is the Artesian well which supplies water to the establishment and represents an effective economy of \$400 gold per month, the amount formerly paid for city water. This well is 150 metres deep, drilled through the hardest rock, and cost \$5000 paid to the Pierce Artesian Well Co. who made the well. Never was such an important sum of money expended more profitably." The alleged instigator, Wolper, in the vitriol-throwing case, Nathan Blitz, underwent a long examination by Judge Constanza on Monday up to a late hour at night, but nothing whatever could be got out of him. He denied everything, even when several points against him were proved up to the hilt by independent witnesses.

STATE OF PRODUCE.

The produce outlook as painted by the consignees could hardly be worse. They foresee a balance of 20,000,000 kilos over from the present crop, as against the 5 million surplus of last year, and point out that, but for the operations of the North American buyers' things would have been immeasurably worse, since their withdrawal of 40,000 bales more or less helped to stay fall in prices, that would otherwise have shown a rate of 20% instead of the 15% calculated to-day. With the European industrial centres going dead-slow, and the production of wool on the increase, tariff wars all the rage, and prices necessarily slumping, it must be confessed that the outlook is heavy and the situation precarious. The Plata is of course vitally interested in wools, and hence the dismay. The consignees, who are a hopelessly pessimistic body by nature, the reverse of Dogberry and Flapley, say that the game will soon not be worth the candle. At present, indeed, it looks like that, with the combed B tottering at 3.55 francs in Antwerp; but things always take a turn, and it may be that the turn in wools is not far off. It is as easy at all events to hope for the best as keep on dreading the worst, and is a deal more comforting. Moreover, it is not the first time that the wool business has been in a very shaky, critical condition and pulled through. If the production increases, so does the world's population, and consequently the demand for clothes, carpets and other articles into which wool enters.

THE S.S. HYDARNES.

A friend has given us some particulars about the missing steamer Hydarnes which cannot fail to prove interesting, as tending to throw some light on the probable cause of the disappearance of this ill-fated vessel. To begin with, she is now 15 days overdue, the regular time for the trip being 22 or 23 days, and she left England on the 27th February. Since then nothing has been heard of her. But the *ss Florence* which sailed on same day and only arrived yesterday, reports having encountered such a "snorter" in the Bay of Biscay, that with everything battered down, and the engines going dead slow, she was 4 days hove to. The storm abating somewhat, it was decided to run out of the storm and hit the batteries to ventilate cargo, which was no sooner done than another time of tribulation hove up, as from No. 3 hatch a dense cloud of smoke came whirling, settling up. The fact of the powder magazine being near the seat of the fire gave a tragic earnestness to the task of getting it under, and passengers, officers and men all worked as they never worked before. The part of the cargo on fire was got overboard as fast as possible, and then the bulkhead knocked away to allow the powder also "walking the plank." Happily all this was successfully accomplished, but the perilous position of all can be gathered from the fact that the two-decks of No. 3 hold contained some 1,800 cases and casks of gunpowder. The passengers were booked for Paraguay to start a colony, we believe. It is surmised in shipping quarters that the Hydarnes must have gone down in that terrible storm, and at least very little hope is entertained now of her turning up.

NATIONAL COLONIES.

The Minister of Justice is so chagrined at the poor result of the National Colonies that he purposes being very severe with the backsliders and equally sharp about the class of "farmers" getting concessions in future, one of the conditions being that the intending colonist set forth on paper his earnest intention of abiding by and fulfilling conditions. This is as it should be. The cause of the homestead law proving a fiasco, however, is that it expressly stipulates the colonist must be Argentine; consequently they are not farmers, and *a fortiori* are not genuine settlers. All that H. E. need do, however, to make the Colonies a success, is to open the door to the foreigner, the hardy Italian, sturdy Basque, persevering Spaniard, or brawny northerner, and then he will get the colonist framed by nature for a settler. But the Argentine was never built, bred or trained to it, and of course he is a failure. He could hardly be otherwise. Do away with the red-tape part of the concessions-granting, send a commissioner to the various districts where there are lands available for settling, with instructions to put every suitable applicant on his plot free of charge, and then the colonies will grow fast enough. Like many other things, the only difficulty about it is the overthrowing of the old, useless system in vogue.

BIG SWINDLE.

Everybody is talking about the "big swindles" reported from the police courts, as it seems that the confidence trick is being worked off a commercial basis. A few days ago the police magistrate had a case in hand in which the market was being "biked" by means of pagars endorsed by a wholesale firm, which turned out on investigation to be a bubble, as the barrels and hogsheads of wine were pure undiluted water, the sacks all filled with sand and the whole stock a fraud. To-day another case turned up, a gentleman having lodged information against wine merchants who he had joined or rather been enticed to join as partners by false pretences. According to the statement made the overtures to get him into the business were going on for a long time before bait was taken, and strange to say the fish was taken to the house of business, shown the stock and the books, and in fact put thoroughly "au courant" before he made his wind up. The case is a very strange one. No evidence is alleged that the accounts were cooked or false stock shown, and the only complaint is that the business was not what it purported to be. Things are so very "queer" now commercially that it is hard to say what is not possible.

LOCUSTS.

A telegram from Mendoza reports that a swarm of locusts has settled there for the last five days, and is doing a great deal of damage to crops and vines alike. The National Government has already ordered the sum of \$50,000 to be given to the expedition which is to start shortly for the Chaco and northern parts of the Republic, where the locusts are supposed to have their breeding grounds. Let us hope that this special expedition will set about its task thoroughly.

General News.

TUESDAY.

The week opened in a tolerably cheerful way yesterday; weather nice; fair share of news, rumours and gossip; fair sex beginning to prepare for Holy Week; ugly sex prepared for anything and everything; Congressmen beginning to filter into town; General Roca returned; general prognostications in society of a tremendously gay winter with lots of nuptial ceremonies at the beginning, middle and end of it etc. etc. "En fin," all circles, except commercial, were brisk and hopeful. The news from Europe was the same old horse. The Greek muddle is worse than ever, and now there seems to be as much chance of the Powers agreeing about Greece, Crete, Turkey, or anything else, as of the Salvation Army signing a treaty of friendship and commerce with his Satanic Majesty. Some telegrams say that Greece will attack Turkey to-day, the anniversary of Grecian Independence. The Turks feel sure of winning, as their army is full of German officers, and Emperor William is the god of war. The great interest in the Crescent side Greece will be chased up, if she is left to fight Turkey single-handed.

Echeagaray, the murderer of the unfortunate Mr. Wanklyn, is to be removed from the police Department to the Penitentiary to await his trial, which cannot be long delayed, the full "sumario" having been laid yesterday before the Judge. By the way, Mr. Wanklyn's coachman, who was reported as lightly wounded, is still in a dangerous condition, the bullet having pierced—not grazed—his throat. It is expected, however, that he will pull through, thanks to the excellent care bestowed on him.

The Clubs were all agog last night when the news spread that General Rojas, the Special B.O. Envoy, had a long interview with General Roca yesterday. Of course, none of the quidnuncs could say what it was about, but the public can easily guess. Our dear Chilean friends. How dear they are!

There was nothing very fresh about the War of the Roses in B.O. yesterday, except that Arriola has further displayed his military talents by getting stuck in a bog somewhere with all his guns and horses while trying to outflank Lamas. The patriots appear to have plenty of cash in their "Caja de Guerra," as all their accounts for their supplies are paid down on the nail: the word "matana" is never mentioned to a hungry creditor.

We beg to thank the Honourable R. J. Seddon, Premier of New Zealand, for a copy of the New Zealand Official Year Book for 1896. It is a most valuable compilation, full of most interesting diagrams. We shall review it and extract from it at leisure, and compare it with Argentina.

Yesterday was the 79th anniversary of the Battle of Maipo when Argentina's Great Captain, San Martin, smashed the chain that bound Chile to haughty Spain. Our Chilean friends celebrated the day with a patriotic racket, but on this side of the Andes there was nothing parti-

We are requested to correct an error in this column in our issue of the 2nd inst. The gentleman who was fatally injured by a fall from his horse at the estancia Refugio was Mr. Mathew H. Whish, one of the lessees of said estancia. Mr. Frank Mathew, the gentleman we mentioned, lives within a few miles of Refugio, and hence the mistake, which we much regret.

WEDNESDAY.

Yesterday was rather a slow-coach day. Little news from B.O., where Borda is getting fast to what is conventionally called his "last legs." It must be so, when he calls out the National Guards; but what can these untrained boys do against Lamas and his troops? The news from ancient Greece was that her ports are now blocked by the fleets of some of the Powers; and more shame to the latter. Yesterday was the Independence Day of Greece, and the people went positively wild with enthusiasm, calling for war with Turkey. Meanwhile, it is again said that the Athens Government and the Porte are secretly negotiating for peace, in spite of the prohibition of the Russian Bear.

The coming session of Congress will be as brisk as a million hives of bees. The potent, grave and reverend Senators, who are supposed to take things more sedately than the Deputies, have already turned up to the number of 14, and only require two more to form a quorum. Thirty six Deputies have also put in an early appearance; but they are still 8 short of a quorum—44. Both Houses evidently mean to begin law-making early this year.

THURSDAY.

There was a rumour in the wind at cocktail hour yesterday that one of the most popular and influential Anglo-Argentine brokers on the Bolsa had won the "grande" in yesterday's Lottery. We sincerely hope it is true.

This is Kissing Day at the Central Station for the passengers by the crack Veloz Steamers the Duchess de Genova. Our senior editor Mr. E. T. Mulhall and family go in her, and we most sincerely beg to return our warmest and most appreciative thanks to our colleagues the *Nacion*, *Diario*, *Herald* and *Diario del Comercio* for the flattering and prettily worded compliments paid to him on the eve of his departure to Europe.

FRIDAY.

The local event of yesterday was an awful one, the powder explosion in Calle 25 de Mayo, of which we give full particulars in another column. The explosion was like the discharge of the biggest gun on board the biggest battleship in the British navy, and shook the whole city. What are we coming to when open cities full of explosives go through the city without the authorities knowing a word about it?

There was a good deal of kissing in Italian yesterday when the passengers of the Duchess de Genova were leaving. Our editor in chief, Mr. E. T. Mulhall, left for La Plata by an early train, thus missing the many kind friends who went to the station later on to see him off. We thank them all in his name. The Duchess will be at Barcelona in 16 days. Owing to want of water the good ship was unable to get away last night; but will probably do so early this morning. At 10 p.m. there were only 22 feet of water in the dock and sheds, 28 feet 5 inches.

The Special Uruguayan Envoy, General Rojas, took leave of President Uriburu yesterday, and leaves to-night for Montevideo. Nobody knows whether he has succeeded in his mission or not.

We understand that there is now some prospect of Her Majesty's Jubilee being celebrated in a way that will be worthy of the occasion, and redound to the credit of the British community. A very powerful and representative committee has been formed, and it appears as if the foundation of the "Sailors Home" will become an accomplished fact.

What is the 3rd of March to Argentina? Boundary Commission going to bits! Nobody seems to know exactly why. The Secretary, Mr. Ochavaga, has resigned, and all the other Argentine born members of the Commission threaten to do likewise. It is clear that no more "hit" work will be done this year; and before next season comes round, what a lot of things may or may not happen.

SATURDAY.

The explosion was, of course, the great topic of the day yesterday, and Baron Munchausen's near relatives had a lot to say about it. Truth may be stranger than fiction sometimes, but in hair-raising stories about Thursday's catastrophe, fiction beat it with tons to spare. Every second man one met was either in the square where the explosion occurred, in the house next door, or passing the cart when the blow-up took place. It is to be hoped that this second fatal explosion in the city within a couple of months will lead to some efficient steps being taken to adequately protect life and property in the city from such dreadful accidents.

The La Plata Wiggins, Mr. Campos, is a worthy successor to his scientific brothers in Pergamino. The terrific thunderstorm of Thursday night and heavy rain yesterday bore out to a big 11 forecast of a storm on or before the 11th inst.

The latest news about the explosion is that none of the poor peons were smoking when it occurred; it was caused by the joining of the case in getting it out of the cart. With regard to those injured, we regret to say that Francisco Figueroa, a peon of Ros and Tobal, died yesterday in the San Roque Hospital, and that the condition of Manuel Lopez, Ramon Casas and N. Pamplon inspired the gravest fears. Even if he recovers, Manuel Lopez will remain blind the rest of his days. Messrs. Ros and Tobal were yesterday set at liberty by order of Judge Gallegos. They had been detained in the first instance in connection with the official investigation now being made. The loss of property involved in the destruction of the Almacén Saiz is calculated at \$80,000 and that suffered by the adjoining houses at 100,000 dollars.

One of our oldest and most esteemed subscribers was standing on the balcony of the second-floor of the house in the Calle 25 de Mayo in front of which the catastrophe took place on Thursday. At the moment of the explosion he was looking down at the very cart that carried the explosives; strange to say, he

was not in the least hurt, not a hair singed. He felt dazed for a few seconds, and when he saw the windows shivered and the floor of the office on fire, he realized the danger and escaped downstairs.

The silence of the telegraph with reference to the Uruguayan Revolution is quite perplexing. Stand-by, who has come from Montevideo disgusted with the wires and the inspectors, tells us that people in the Mount know even less than we do: that must be zero minus 1. The Rebel Committee say they have received news of the triumph of the Revolutionists in all the Eastern departments. Santos Arribio's forces are nowhere. Lamas appears to have wiped them off the face of the country.

The Government are making efforts to oppose Lamas's advance. We regret to learn that the Rebels have sullied their cause by assaulting and murdering Mr. Castro, an estanciero in Fraile Muerto. It appears that four rebels escaped from the encampment with the idea of sacking Mr. Castro's house. They carried out their dastardly plan only too well. Mrs. Castro escaped by taking refuge in the fields. Another incident of this nature, and the revolutionary cause will suffer. When the news of the outrage reached Saravia's ears, he ordered an inquiry, tried the culprits, and had them shot in the presence of their comrades—swift and condign punishment no doubt, but this will not restore the unfortunate Castro to his wife and family.

Mr. H.L. Green, the popular Royalty Mail agent, informs us that there is an unclaimed trunk (solid leather portmanteau) lying at the Lisbon Custom House, landed from the R.M.S. Clyde last voyage, which the Lisbon Agents think belongs to a River Plata passenger, as it has still part of an old B. Aires label attached to it. The initials which are painted on it are almost totally obliterated and undecipherable. The owner should send his claim to the office of Mr. Green.

The passengers who were returning from La Plata by the evening train, after seeing their friends off in the Duchess de Genova, got a tremendous fright about the explosion in Calle 25 de Mayo. At every station the Three Black Crows tale expanded, and when they reached Green Lomas the Government House had been blown whole over the moon, with the President, Ministers and General Tajos in it; the Bolsa was in smithereens; the Pyramids in the Plaza on its way to the planet Mars, and the STANDARD office transferred bodily to Chivilcoy. When they got to town they were all greatly relieved, though shocked at the sad proportions of the catastrophe. All the furniture and goods of all kinds pitched and carried into the street through fear of the fire spreading were generously allowed to be stored in the large Tenerife Cigar Divan of Messrs Morales and Son, 333 Corrad, opposite the Plata. It was the only house open in the street at the time, except a hair-dresser's, the proprietor of which most uncharitably closed his doors and refused to allow even a chair to be placed in it. This Good Samaritan won't have increased the number of his customers in the "barrio" by this conduct on such a distressing occasion.

SUNDAY.

Telegrams were received last night stating that Lamas at the head of 8,500 men is marching on Paysandú. The revolution is reported as triumphant in Minas, Rocha and Florida, and the Government is so alarmed that reinforcements are to be immediately sent to Canelones. This news appeared last night on the blackboards of the Sala de Informaciones and illuminated by the famous Argentine Que of Messrs. de Bolson and Co. The arrival yesterday at the Mount of the remnant of the gallant 2nd Cazadores who were almost annihilated in the battle of Tres Arboles, was made the occasion of a public manifestation. The soldiers were cheered by an enthusiastic crowd, who, though at heart revolutionists, could not refrain from thus giving vent to their admiration of the courage of the brave Cazadores.

There was a diplomatic pow-wow at Government House yesterday, when the new Bolivian Envoy, Dr. Telmo Ichazoo presented his credentials, with the usual address of State Coach, mellifluous speeches, gold lace, cocked hats, swords, sables, etc. There was an unusually large attendance of army officers, from Generals down to Captains, and it was remarked as a significant coincidence, that this occurred during the temporary absence of the Minister of War.

The public still believe, in spite of all that is said to the contrary, that there was dynamite in the cart that blew up on Thursday, and that the rockets on the top were only a blind. This is extremely probable. Rockets would have exploded in a series of reports, and not with the cannon shot, single bang that was heard even at Flores. This fact cannot be got even to the Minister of War.

Ho! Ho! In spite of the sharp lesson he is receiving, that great and good individual President Borda cannot restrain his Chilean sympathies, and intends to give a grand official blow-out to the Chilean squadron, under Admiral Goni, should this gallant officer change his mind, and call at Montevideo, instead of going straight from Rio to Valparaiso. The chances are that Lamas will be in Montevideo long before Admiral Goni, and then the question will be, "where is Borda?" And the answer will be "far, far away."

Commercial News.

MONDAY.

It is a funny market surely, a perplexing one too, as may be imagined with gold down 10 points since the liquidation and everyone expecting a reaction, slow in putting in an appearance. The Metternichs stalk about the ring with heads down and spirits lower; for the life of them they cannot see the cause of the fall, and of course refuse to accept it, whilst though the gatemasters trim with the fortunes of the hour and are on the "baja," the whole speculative movement is circling round the expectation of a revulsion. Thus the moment the first symptoms of a break declare themselves the rush to secure will be tremendous. It is not to be supposed that the leverage power which has been brought into play to force the market down will be taken off immediately, so that it is difficult to foresee when the reaction will set in, but the bulls are

waiting on it, and the moment it starts it will be patent enough. It is not to be said that a decline in the premium seems to be impossible with the situation figuring out as it is, the prices would probably go low, weak, but somehow nobody will go in on the fall with any sense of security, which is the bullish buffer. However, argue as best they can, even the bulls have to admit the market very weak, and the rally still in the womb of things to come.

TUESDAY.

With the gold market still in a very undecided mood, apparently almost as likely to cant over and turn turtle as to go straight for a whooping rise, opinion is still engaged in sounding and pulsing the situation, without being able to derive either reason, cause or purpose; that is to say things are just as they were and the puzzle unsolved. Some are beginning to think that this anomalous fall of gold with everything adverse thereto is originated by the commercial crisis, reasoning it out in this way: that as the retail trade is unable to meet its pagarés discounted in the banks the houses have perforce to honour them, thus necessitating a realization of gold to secure paper, and thus accounting for the continuous supply of cash gold swamping the market. Add to this the delivery of the "pase" gold, due to prevailing unassiduousness and a squeeze amongst the cambistas, who are supposed to have received an intimation from the banks that they (the banks) would like to see their accounts settled, and the situation with all its anomalous features is accounted for. The reasoning is specious enough, and may after all be pretty close to the mark, but whether the fall is thus a natural development of the situation or the result of a very clever raking move of some big houses who, seeing the market top heavy, walked in to take advantage of the opportunity, as some think, the fact remains that gold is bearish and opinion bullish, quotations sinking and the speculation banking after a reaction and rise. Such is the state of the market. The prices are the reverse of firm, but with the market so combative, it is difficult to foresee a fall.

WEDNESDAY.

There was nothing either very novel or interesting about the state of the gold market to-day, as business was dull, the speculation phlegmatic. The bulls are as fixed as ever on the absolute certainty of the reaction soon getting under way, with the movement in produce reduced to spasmodic operations and exchange tumbling; but if the expectation is a rock, the market continues weak, and opinion puzzled. How long this may last is a difficult point to determine. So long as the cash gold comes lumping on prices will keep low. The secret of the situation is, therefore, precisely, the origin of this very free and inflexible supply, but once it gives out or even shows signs of thinning, the speculation will be revived on stiffer lines from the forced reaction and glowing prospects that a rise holds out. This may, however, tend to defeat itself in much the same way as the Castells speculation for a fall was levering the market up. As a matter of fact, were Mr. Castells still alive, in all probability the price of gold to-day would be 30 points higher, but his death cleared off the "desabucado" and upset the combination. Supposing, however, that the bulls do not overstrain the market, it is difficult to see anything in the shape of a fall. The shortage, in the cereals will now begin to tell on a market already far from solid, and hence the apprehension of the gold leakage soon taking definite shape. Business is very dull all round, and the commercial depression thickening.

THURSDAY.

The market is still at a stand-still, that is the market in general, as it is not gold alone but business all round that is dull and heavy. The news of telegrams received from London announcing the lowering of the bank rate to 2½% seemed to lend things an improved aspect, but somehow, after all is said and done, the Bolsa does not "cotton" to a fall, and the fact that gold actually keeps the right side of the Rubicon is a puzzle. It may be that the market has not yet righted itself from the Castells liquidation, which caught it so top-heavy that it came down by the run, but this must soon wear off and then—where does the fall come in? Not surely from an unsaleable clip, shortage of cereals, depression in trade and collapse in exchange, and add to this disquieting rumours about emission to fill the cup. Assuredly the outlook is not pretty, the reverse of picturesque. But at least we can vouch for an earnest discussion of the Government's omission. Unless Congress is prepared to take the unenviable course of passing it over the Executive's head, there will be no fresh issues. That Congress will brave such a situation is doubtful, and consequently apprehension on this head may be set aside. However, the market still remains in the anomalous condition of straining for a rise and being forced down by a continuous stream of cash gold. Nobody understands how, or why, or wherefore. But there it is. It may perchance throw some light on the subject to know that in Government circles the price is considered high.

FRIDAY.

Naturally, the engrossing topic of conversation to-day was the explosion which shook the whole Bolsa block yesterday. The Temple was pretty clear when it occurred, as even the usual late birds, frightened away by the weather, had left. To-day the particulars thereof were avidly discussed, and we may put it down that the explanation of the box having contained an assortment of rockets is not accepted, the prevalent impression being that the explosive was dynamite, pure and simple. That the loss of life was so small is little short of wonderful. Mr. Miles Pasman, who was sitting in his office dead in front of the scene of the disaster, felt the concussion go right through the building, though nothing really suffered except the windows. Mr. Robinson, liquidator of the ex-English Bank of the River Plata, only a few yards higher up the street, also felt the shock very plainly in his offices in the B. Ayres Insurance building, which had the big plate glass windows shattered, and he had to stay on till all danger of the fire had passed across from the almanac to the houses in front was over. All the brokers

and merchants visited the scene to-day, the crowd in the block being tremendous still thinned off by the rain; and we may say that more interest was manifested in the details of the disaster than in the gold speculation, which still drags out a weary, heavy, monotonous length. The market finding that gold will not respond to a bullish speculation, has now taken a crossed arms attitude. Speculate for a fall it will not, perhaps from disinclination, perhaps from apprehension, but so it is, and with prices threatening a collapse the ring is firm as ever in its "baja," that gold is cheap. Business is at a stand-still in every line, and exchange tottering. The prospects, therefore, are not a prospective promise, even though the gold prices keep down.

SATURDAY.

There is evidently little to be got out of reasoning over the unreasonable state of the gold market but a financial headache, and as people are beginning to realize this, there is no longer the staring amazement, previously manifested, over the fall. Next that the situation has been explained, or the puzzle solved. The ring is quite as much at sea as ever as to the causes, but it has got tired of shuffling and shaking, churning and straining after anything reasonably clear, and sensibly accepts what it cannot upset. Meantime we have gold as heavy as lead, the bottom of the tub shivered to splinters, rushes tumbling head over heels, and no push or speculative maneuvering whatever. Strange truly. Because exchange is also on the slump, and gold shipments a prospect that it would be useless to try and close the organs of mental vision to. Such being the case, that is to say a reconciliation of the phases of the market being impossible, the most sensible thing naturally is to take the situation as it stands. Gold is dropping, tumbling, collapsing—so much the better; it would be a cause for alarm if it were the other way about, but as it is not, and as there is no rigging move at play, there is no solid ground for the apprehensions aired by some, who argue that this very abnormal state of affairs is the very worst symptom we could possibly have, signifying, for them of course, a complete smash-up in trade, suspension of remittances and severe crisis. That things are not very well with us in trade lines is self-evident; the constant falling in of the minnows will draw in the Tritons too, and thus the only hope of an immediate rally is based upon the outlook for the next harvest. But "dum spiro spero;" things might be worse, and at all events we are not likely to find any improvement by reversing the lever. Things are bad certainly, but it is a comfort they are not worse.

The following is a summary of the business effected at the first ring to-day:—
\$ 384,000 cash at 295.25-295.50-295.50-295.50
295.20-295.30-30-30-30-295
295.20-10-30-20-295-294-30-70
\$ 190,000 April 30th at 296.50-297.296-296.50-296.50-296.50
296.50-297.296.50-296.50-296.50-296.50
\$ 10,000 April 24th at 297.296.
\$ 15,000 April 12th at 295.70-295.30
\$ 168,000 April 15th at 295.20-295.295-80-70-296-295.50-296-295.50-70-50-295-294-30-70
\$ 5,000 May 15th at 298.
\$ 105,000 May 31st at 298.50-299-50-299.50-299.50-299.50
\$ 20,000 June 30th at 300-300.50
\$ 5,000 Sept. 30th at 303.
\$ 902,000

National Hypothecary Cédulas—
For cash... F 1,000 at 86.50.
Obligaciones constructor—
For cash... 1,500 at 7.50-60.
Cia Primitiva de Gas—
For cash... 50 at 213.
Catalinas Molas—
For cash... 3,900 at 8.50.
April 14... 400 at 8.50-60.
April 30... 400 at 8.60.

The market continued trading its way heavily and aggressively downwards at the second hour, having shaken off the bullish brake completely. It is very difficult to say when the reaction will set in, as the market is as limp as a wet rag, but it is quite clear that a drop of 14 points in 10 days is quite out of measure, immoderate, and must provoke a rally. It is possible and probable that this will surge up immediately; but at the same time it is pretty sure to be short-lived, as where formerly there was not a good seller on time, now the whole market is on the fall, and the very best signatures banging away when there is a chance, for dates. A very wonderful change truly. The bulls are simply breaking their heads against a stone wall. The price opened at 299.30 and left off fainting at 292.80. There is nothing doing in passes, but plenty of sellers on time. In stocks there was very brisk speculation in Catalinas, as seems that the sentence of the Court is out and was known to many in the hall and ring who were buying frantically. However, the prices did not soar though the fact that they improved shows that the sentence is favorable to the company. People who profess to know say that the company gets an indemnity to be fixed by arbitrators and as regards the deposits will have all vessels which the fiscal deposits cannot handle. There was no interest for anything else.

BOLSA QUOTATIONS.

AVERAGE OF GOLD PREMIUM.			
Year.	1886	1887	1888
1886	37 0/0		
1887	39		
1888	38		
1889	38		
1890	38		
1891	37 1/2		
1892	37 1/2		
1893	37 1/2		
1894	37 1/2		
1895	37 1/2		
1896	37 1/2		

GOLD PREMIUM IN 1894, 1895, 1896 AND 1897.

Year.	1894	1895	1896	1897
January	187 0/0	227 0/0	257 0/0	240 0/0
February	217 0/0	211	251	254
March	210 1/2	212	248	254
April	—	223	244	262
May	—	205	202	250
June	—	198	247.50	277
July	—	185	247.50	260
August	—	175	235	226
September	—	170.50	222.75	222
October	—	150.00	227	234
November	—	183.27	233.75	224.50
December	—	181.67	231.75	225

PRINCIPAL ARGENTINE EXPORTS.

	WOOL				WHEAT				MAIZE				LIVE STEERS				LIVE SHEEP			
	QUANTITY		VALUE		QUANTITY		VALUE		QUANTITY		VALUE		NUMBER		VALUE		NUMBER		VALUE	
	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897
	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold	No.	No.	\$ gold	\$ gold	No.	No.	\$ gold	\$ gold
January	28,813	29,029	5,416,575	4,728,000	74,366	3,316	1,710,432	238,906	92,049	65,434	966,513	835,000	35,558	7,369	678,456	222,000	55,320	27,017	55,071	82,000
February	28,813	24,025	5,416,575	4,728,000	74,366	3,316	1,710,432	238,906	92,049	65,434	966,513	835,000	35,558	7,369	678,456	222,000	55,320	27,017	55,071	82,000
March	28,813	26,249	5,416,575	5,250,000	74,366	27,90	1,710,433	688,750	92,049	18,875	966,514	188,750	35,559	10,655	678,458	302,000	55,321	45,048	165,971	135,000
1st Quarter	86,439	79,303	16,250,625	14,781,000	223,100	60,105	5,181,297	1,502,725	276,147	110,199	2,899,540	1,103,750	105,175	27,274	2,085,460	819,500	165,961	104,748	497,013	315,649
April	13,639	....	3,373,239	....	77,892	....	1,846,057	....	90,777	....	971,319	....	50,538	....	694,163	....	45,001	....	134,907	....
May	13,639	....	3,373,239	....	77,892	....	1,846,057	....	90,777	....	971,319	....	50,538	....	694,163	....	45,001	....	134,907	....
June	13,640	....	3,373,240	....	77,894	....	1,846,057	....	90,778	....	971,319	....	50,539	....	694,164	....	45,003	....	134,909	....
2nd Quarter	40,918	....	7,119,718	....	233,678	....	5,538,171	....	272,332	....	2,913,957	....	151,615	....	2,085,460	....	135,005	....	404,968	....
Total six months	127,357	....	23,370,343	....	456,778	....	10,669,468	....	548,479	....	5,818,497	....	256,790	....	4,117,950	....	300,966	....	902,005	....
July	8,635	....	618,055	....	12,456	....	315,133	....	190,433	....	1,771,034	....	24,035	....	418,450	....	39,072	....	117,218	....
August	8,635	....	618,055	....	12,456	....	315,133	....	190,433	....	1,771,034	....	24,035	....	418,450	....	39,072	....	117,218	....
September	8,635	....	618,055	....	12,456	....	315,133	....	190,433	....	1,771,034	....	24,035	....	418,450	....	39,072	....	117,218	....
3rd Quarter	10,907	....	1,854,165	....	37,368	....	945,400	....	571,301	....	5,313,102	....	72,105	....	1,255,350	....	117,218	....	351,654	....
Total nine months	138,264	....	25,224,508	....	494,146	....	11,614,868	....	1,119,780	....	11,126,599	....	328,895	....	5,373,300	....	418,184	....	1,254,560	....
October	6,965	....	1,395,000	....	18,609	....	446,616	....	138,530	....	1,246,770	....	7,821	....	234,630	....	21,089	....	65,967	....
November	14,529	....	2,995,300	....	10,464	....	376,623	....	184,160	....	2,340,717	....	6,476	....	194,280	....	19,808	....	59,694	....
December	27,864	....	3,993,341	....	8,782	....	391,920	....	128,047	....	1,280,570	....	39,347	....	741,440	....	51,945	....	155,835	....
4th Quarter	49,355	....	8,291,541	....	37,855	....	1,216,159	....	460,787	....	4,868,057	....	53,644	....	1,170,350	....	98,832	....	281,496	....
Total twelve months	187,619	....	33,516,049	....	532,001	....	12,830,027	....	1,570,517	....	15,994,656	....	382,539	....	6,543,650	....	512,016	....	1,536,056	....
Total 1895	201,000	....	31,000,000	....	1,010,000	....	19,500,000	....	772,000	....	10,200,000	....	408,000	....	7,000,000	....	430,000	....	1,300,000	....
Total 1894	162,000	....	28,500,000	....	1,000,000	....	27,000,000	....	55,000	....	1,600,000	....	220,000	....	4,500,000	....	122,000	....	450,000	....
Total 1893	123,000	....	25,000,000	....	1,000,000	....	25,000,000	....	55,000	....	1,600,000	....	220,000	....	4,500,000	....	122,000	....	450,000	....
Total 1892	155,000	....	44,000,000	....	470,000	....	14,700,000	....	446,000	....	8,600,000	....	135,500	....	2,600,000	....	40,000	....	170,000	....

	SHEEPSKINS				FLOUR				LINSEED				DRY HIDES				FROZEN WOLFHES			
	QUANTITY		VALUE		QUANTITY		VALUE		QUANTITY		VALUE		QUANTITY		VALUE		QUANTITY		VALUE	
	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897	1896	1897
	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold	Tons	Tons	\$ gold	\$ gold
January	2,430	1,800	267,333	197,000	4,295	3,055	122,700	140,000	40,899	21,262	1,227,000	638,000	1,481	1,655	429,333	491,400	3,824	4,316	153,000	162,000
February	2,430	1,442	267,333	157,178	4,295	5,771	150,333	288,550	40,899	42,005	1,227,000	1,260,150	1,481	930	429,333	300,000	3,824	2,359	153,000	86,402
March	2,431	2,143	267,334	285,050	4,296	4,678	150,334	223,050	40,900	28,555	1,227,000	790,650	1,481	1,745	429,334	522,500	3,825	6,205	153,000	239,600
1st Quarter	7,291	5,387	802,500	590,128	12,896	13,499	451,000	652,200	122,698	89,822	3,681,000	2,694,800	4,443	4,391	1,288,000	1,314,300	11,473	12,880	459,000	481,462
April	2,383	....	262,166	....	4,814	....	173,333	....	30,910	....	927,333	....	920	....	242,333	....	3,829	....	153,000	....
May	2,384	....	262,168	....	4,814	....	173,334	....	30,912	....	927,334	....	921	....	242,334	....	3,831	....	153,000	....
June	2,384	....	262,168	....	4,814	....	173,334	....	30,912	....	927,334	....	921	....	242,334	....	3,831	....	153,000	....
2nd Quarter	7,150	....	786,500	....	14,442	....	520,000	....	92,732	....	2,782,000	....	2,761	....	727,000	....	11,489	....	459,000	....
Total six months	14,441	....	1,588,500	....	27,338	....	971,000	....	215,430	....	6,463,000	....	7,204	....	2,015,000	....	22,962	....	918,000	....
July	2,615	....	287,833	....	4,980	....	184,333	....	7,441	....	1,028,151	....	2,290	....	705,333	....	2,903	....	116,333	....
August	2,615	....	287,833	....	4,980	....	184,333	....	7,441	....	1,028,151	....	2,290	....	705,333	....	2,903	....	116,333	....
September	2,617	....	287,834	....	4,981	....	184,334	....	7,441	....	1,028,151	....	2,291	....	705,334	....	2,904	....	116,334	....
3rd Quarter	7,847	....	863,500	....	14,941	....	533,000	....	21,423	....	3,084,466	....	6,871	....	2,116,000	....	8,710	....	349,000	....
Total nine months	22,288	....	2,452,000	....	42,279	....	1,524,000	....	236,853	....	6,771,446	....	14,075	....	4,131,000	....	31,672	....	1,267,000	....
October	3,666	....	403,000	....	1,954	....	78,169	....	286	....	8,180	....	2,153	....	645,000	....	3,448	....	161,231	....
November	3,286	....	353,994	....	3,956	....	197,800	....	904	....	27,120	....	1,708	....	512,400	....	3,993	....	151,374	....
December	7,999	....	850,061	....	3,553	....	149,595	....	1,632	....	48,960	....	3,903	....	1,310,705	....	5,092	....	224,000	....
4th Quarter	14,631	....	1,609,055	....	9,473	....	425,556	....	2,822	....	84,650	....	7,764	....	2,469,005	....	13,433	....	337,205	....
Total twelve months	36,919	....	4,061,055	....	51,742	....	1,949,556	....	239,675	....	6,856,106	....	21,839	....	6,600,000	....	45,105	....	1,804,205	....
Total 1895	34,000	....	3,712,000	....	54,000	....	1,880,000	....	276,500	....	3,200,000	....	27,700	....	8,950,000	....	41,900	....	1,675,000	....
Total 1894	37,000	....	4,300,000	....	41,000	....	1,620,000	....	304,500	....	3,600,000	....	36,500	....	7,050,000	....	36,500	....	1,860,000	....
Total 1893	35,800	....	4,200,000	....	38,000	....	1,320,000	....	72,800	....	2,900,000	....	No. 8,178,000	....	5,900,000	....	25,000	....	2,000,000	....
Total 1892	30,100	....	9,600,000	....	19,000	....	1,020,000	....	43,000	....	2,550,000	....	No. 2,850,000	....	6,000,000	....	25,500	....	2,000,000	....

Ex. Note.—In the above table all figures of quantity and number are official, from the Custom House and Statistical Department of the Nation. All figures of value are also official, except those for the current year which are reckoned at market quotations. The uniformity in some monthly exports arises from the fact that we compute the monthly average of exports per quarter, as owing to distances and delays in means of communication, it is impossible to get the exact figures each month—the figures per quarter are exact. In the same fashion we have computed the official values per monthly average of each quarter. The quantities are expressed in tons of 1,000 kilograms, say 2,200 English pounds. The values are expressed in dollars gold worth 47 1/2 cts. The above, being official quantities and numbers and official values, are the only reliable figures that can be supplied, and are the most approximately correct. The figures of export of live-stock for 1896 and previous years include animals sent across frontier to Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile and Bolivia, whilst the figures for first quarter of 1897, are limited to shipments of live-stock by steamer beyond cape.

RAILWAY RETURNS.

RAILWAY.	MILES OPEN.		RECEIPTS OF WEEK.				AGGREGATE RECEIPTS TO DATE.			
	1896	1897	Date.	1896	1897	+ or -	From.	1896	1897	+ or -
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	1,403	1,469	April 4th	\$ 20,210	\$ 28,794	— \$ 8,584	July 1st	\$ 998,437	\$ 1,096,409	— \$ 107,972
Central Argentine	730	790	4th	\$ 16,333	\$ 16,890	— \$ 557	Jan. 1st	\$ 278,529	\$ 220,151	— \$ 58,378
Buenos Ayres Pacific	426	426	3rd	\$ 8,240	\$ 8,670	— \$ 430	July 1st	\$ 249,356	\$ 307,692	— \$ 58,336
Buenos Ayres Eusebio	125	125	4th	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,408	—	Jan. 1st	\$ 38,641	\$ 58,415	— \$ 19,774
Buenos Ayres Western	427	495	4th	\$ 13,026	\$ 12,998	— \$ 28	July 1st	\$ 554,045	\$ 547,576	— \$ 6,4